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NIGERIA, 1934

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# NIGERIA

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## ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF NIGERIA, 1934

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*Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of  
the People of Nigeria 1934.*

**CORRIGENDUM.**

Paragraph 1, line 5 *for* 31,150 square miles *read* 34,081 square miles.







# NIGERIA

## ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF NIGERIA FOR 1934.

### CHAPTER I.

#### GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

1. The Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria is situated on the northern shore of the Gulf of Guinea. It is bounded on the west and north by French Territory and on the east by the former German Colony of the Cameroons. Great Britain has received a Mandate over a small portion of the Cameroons (~~31,150~~ 34,081 square miles) which for purposes of administration has been placed under the Nigerian Government. As the remainder of the Cameroons is administered by the French also under a Mandate, for practical purposes all the Nigerian frontiers march with the French.

2. The area of Nigeria including the mandated area of the Cameroons, is approximately 372,674 square miles (the Southern Provinces and the Colony covering 90,896, and the Northern Provinces 281,778 square miles). With the exception of the Mandated Tanganyika Territory it is the largest British Dependency in Africa. Along the entire coast line runs a belt, from ten to sixty miles in width of mangrove swamp forest intersected by the branches of the Niger Delta and other rivers which are interconnected by innumerable creeks. The whole constitutes a continuous waterway from beyond the western boundary of Nigeria almost to the Cameroons. This region is succeeded by a belt from fifty to 100 miles wide of tropical "rain forest" and oil palm bush which covers the greater part of the central and eastern provinces of the South. Beyond this the vegetation passes, as the elevation rises, from open woodland to grass savannah interspersed with scrubby fire-resisting trees which covers the greater part of the Northern Provinces until desert conditions are reached in the extreme north. Nigeria possesses few mountains except along the Eastern boundary, though points on the central Plateau are over 6,000 feet above sea level. In addition to the Niger and Benue which during the rainy season are navigable by steamers as far as Jebba and Yola respectively, there are a number of important rivers of which the Cross River is the largest. Except for Lake Chad in the extreme north-east there are no large lakes.



3. Although Nigeria lies entirely within the tropics the climate of northern Nigeria would be more accurately described as sub-tropical than tropical; for there is a long dry season from November to April when there is considerable diurnal and seasonal variation in temperature and the harmattan wind blows from the desert laden with fine particles of dust. The climate of southern Nigeria approximates more to the typical tropical climate; the rainy season there is long, and the relative humidity and the temperature are both rather uniform throughout the year. In 1934 77.80 inches of rain were recorded in Lagos. The average in Katsina is twenty-eight inches and in Forcados 145.

4. The West Coast of Africa first became known to Europe at the end of the fifteenth century through the discoveries of the Portuguese, and in the seventeenth and eighteenth the development of the slave trade with America made it the scene of great commercial activity. The endeavour of the British to suppress what remained of this trade in the early part of the nineteenth century led, amongst other events, to the foundation of the Colony of Lagos in 1862.

5. The northern part of Nigeria although vaguely known to Arab geographers of the fourteenth century who were acquainted with the Negro kingdoms of the Western Sudan remained unknown to Europe until, at the latter end of the eighteenth century and the early part of the nineteenth, the explorations of Mungo Park, Clapperton, the Landers, Barth and others made known the true course of the Niger and the existence of the organised states of the interior. This led to attempts to open up trade which despite very heavy mortality in the earlier years resulted in the establishment of trading posts along the banks of the Niger and Benue by 1860. In 1879 the various British firms were amalgamated and in 1887 granted a Royal Charter and became known as the Royal Niger Company, Chartered and Limited.

6. In 1885 the Berlin conference had recognised the British claim to a protectorate over Nigeria, and that part of the country which was not included within the Lagos territories or the sphere of the Chartered Company was made into a separate administration under the Foreign Office and became known as the Oil Rivers Protectorate and later as the Niger Coast Protectorate.

7. By 1900 the Chartered Company had passed its period of usefulness and its Charter was revoked on 1st of January, 1900. The northern part of its territories became the Northern Nigeria Protectorate, the southern were combined with the Niger Coast Protectorate under the name of the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, both being placed under the Colonial Office.



8. In 1906 the Colony of Lagos and its protected territories were combined with the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria and designated the Colony and Protectorate of Southern Nigeria with Lagos as the seat of Government, and on the 1st of January, 1914, the Northern and Southern Protectorates were amalgamated to form the present Colony and Protectorate of Nigeria.

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## CHAPTER II.

### GOVERNMENT.

9. The main political divisions of Nigeria are the Colony of Nigeria, and two groups of Provinces, known as the Northern and Southern Provinces, which together form the Protectorate. The whole country is under the control of a Governor and Commander-in-Chief to whom the Lieutenant-Governor of the Southern and Chief Commissioner of the Northern Provinces are responsible. The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting of a few of the senior officials. By Order in Council dated the 21st of November, 1922, the former bodies known as the Nigerian Council and the (Colony) Legislative Council were abolished and a larger Legislative Council was substituted for them. This enlarged Legislative Council consists of:—The Governor, as President; thirty Official Members; three elected Unofficial Members representing the municipal area of Lagos and one representing the municipal area of Calabar; and not more than fifteen nominated Unofficial Members. These fifteen are selected to include nominees of the Chambers of Commerce of Lagos, Port Harcourt, Calabar and Kano, of the Local Council of the Nigerian Chamber of Mines, and of the Banking and Shipping interests, together with members representing African interests in parts of the Colony and the Southern Provinces of the Protectorate which do not return elected representatives to the Legislative Council. This Council legislates only for the Colony and the Southern Provinces of the Protectorate and the Governor continues to legislate for the Northern Provinces of the Protectorate. The power of taxation in the Northern Provinces is left with the Governor and the scope of the Legislative Council in financial affairs is confined to the Colony and Southern Provinces, except that the sanction of the Council is required for all expenditure out of the funds and revenues of the Central Government which is incurred in the Northern Provinces. There is thus a measure of direct representation of the people by members selected by themselves to the Legislative Council.

10. The first elections for the unofficial members for Lagos and Calabar were held on the 20th of September, 1923, and aroused the keenest interest. The new Legislative Council was inaugurated by the Governor on the 31st of October, 1923.

11. The Protectorate (including the mandated territory of the Cameroons) is divided into twenty-three provinces, each under the immediate control of a Resident. The Colony is administered by the Governor through the Commissioner of the Colony.

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## NATIVE ADMINISTRATION.

### Northern Provinces.

12. The Northern Provinces are administered under the system known as "Indirect Rule", whereby the functions of Government are for the most part carried out through the Native Chiefs or Councils, with the assistance and advice of the British Administrative staff. Certain essential services are also undertaken by the Native Administrations and are maintained and paid for out of the revenue obtained from a share (ranging from fifty to sixty-five per cent) of the taxes collected by them, the whole of their Native Court receipts and various minor fees. The technical branches of these services are supervised by European experts seconded to and paid by the wealthier Native Administrations: elsewhere advice and assistance is given by officials paid by the Central Government. Among the chief services maintained by the Native Administrations are medical, motor transport, education, engineering and communications, and in one of the larger Emirates the Native Administration has undertaken survey, printing and water and electricity supplies. In matters concerning the maintenance of railways and trunk roads, Government Troops and Police, the close survey of the Minesfield, central hospitals, the various works in Townships and similar services, representatives of the Central Government Departments are in direct control.

13. The Native Authorities are responsible, through the Administrative staff, to Government for the peace and good order of their respective areas in so far as persons legally subject to their jurisdiction are concerned. This is secured through a chain of District and Village heads, with a system of Native Courts, Police and Prisons under their own control and paid for from their Treasuries. The revenue of each Treasury, derived from the sources mentioned above, is shown in annual Estimates together with the expenditure for the year, drawn up with the advice of the Administrative staff and approved by the Governor but not subject to the control of the Legislative Council. In the areas occupied by the more primitive tribes the Native Administrations are naturally not so far advanced and more assistance or direct control by the Administrative staff is required.



14. The prototype of this system of administration through District Heads and Village Heads was found in the Northern Emirates at the time of the British Occupation and from expediency was adopted as a model throughout the Northern Provinces, in Pagan and Moslem areas alike, in the early days of the British Administration. It has proved successful in many parts, but in pagan areas it has frequently had the effect of covering with a veneer the traditional forms of government, without utilising which little progress can be expected. During the latter months of 1933 an endeavour was made to penetrate this veneer and discover the true forms of government among the numerous pagan tribes. Detailed investigations have continued throughout the year under review and reorganisations have been carried out with a view to recreating and developing the basic tribal forms of local self government. Proposals for change have been made only after close consultation with the people concerned and repeated discussion with them has been considered necessary before any adaptation of such of the indigenous institutions as might remain was regarded as desirable.

15. On the 1st April the Tiv Administrative Division was formed by the amalgamation of the Abinsi Division with the independent Tiv Districts formerly administered in Wukari Division. The new Division includes practically all the Tiv except those who have migrated into the territories of other established Native Authorities. Progress has been made with the reorganisation of the Native Administrations of the primitive pagan tribes in the south of Benue Province. In a number of Tiv Clans, kindred councils of elders have been appointed subordinate Native Authorities for village affairs, the superior Native Authority being the Clan Council. For each Council there is an elected spokesman who is its executive official, replacing the former elected Village and District Headman. The main effect of the change is that the spokesman is regarded as the servant of the Council of Elders instead of, as formerly in many instances, its master. These councils, as yet, have functioned for a few months only, but the experiment shows prospects of success in the increasing interest taken in the various phases of administration and the greater freedom with which opinions are expressed. Separate Native Administrations have been formed for the three tribal groups which inhabit the Kentu Areas of the Mandated Territory, and in the cosmopolitan towns of Makurdi and Abinsi councils have been formed under the presidency of the former chiefs.

16. Extensive anthropological investigations into the origins and social structures of many of the tribes of the Plateau Province have also led to reorganisations of certain units based on traditional



forms of government and supported by the wishes of the Chiefs and people concerned. In Pankshin Division the Hill Angas and Kaleri tribes have been completely reorganised. Sura District has been divided into two separate and independent federal unions and a new District has been created comprising the former Jepal village area of Chip District. In Shendam Division a federation has been formed of the Namu and Dimmuk tribes. The Montols have been separated from Shendam District and the Gerkawa have been removed from Yergam control. In Zaria Province district boundaries have been adjusted to unite, as far as possible, communities possessing close ethnic and sociological affinities. The Emir's Executive Council has been reconstituted and extended to assist decentralisation in the control of Native Administration departments and to encourage the Emir in the delegation of his responsibilities. The independent districts of Jaba, Kagoro and Moroa have been transferred to Zaria Province from the Jemaa Division of the Plateau Province and are administered under the direct supervision of an Administrative Officer.

17. The Gwari-Kamuku federation in Niger Province which was formed last year is functioning smoothly, and progress has been made in reconstituting Native Administration on a traditional tribal basis in the Emirates of Abuja, Kontagora and Lapai, by the reduction of redundant District Heads and the establishment of tribal village areas. In Ilorin Province village councils have been developed in the Emirates of Ilorin, Lafiagi and Pategi. The Bassa District of Kabba Province has been reorganised as five independent units each under its own Clan Head, combining to form a common treasury, with the Divisional Officer as Native Authority for the area. The Yagbas, who were formerly divided between Ilorin and Kabba Provinces have been united to form one district with a separate Native Treasury. The new Katsina Province was formed on 1st August consisting of the Emirates of Katsina and Daura which were formerly contained in the provinces of Zaria and Kano respectively. The opportunity was then taken to reorganise the Northern Division of Kano Province by removing Kazaure Emirate and including it in Kano Division. For administrative convenience the Nasarawa and Lafia Divisions of Benue Province have been combined to form the North Benue Division with headquarters at Lafia. The Dabai Native Administration has been transferred from the Sokoto to the Gwandu Division.

18. There were disturbances in the Chamba and Mubi Districts of Adamawa Province in March and April, and the Administrative Officer who toured the areas was accompanied by an escort of police. In the former district a Native Administration official was murdered and in the latter pagans of Bagira attacked the District Head and killed four of his followers. The

districts were subsequently visited by the Acting Resident and measures to improve the method of administration of the area are under consideration.

19. A Conference of leading Chiefs was held at Kaduna in May. The Chiefs were unaccompanied by their Residents and had to rely upon themselves. The social and personal aspect of the conference was found to be of value apart from the actual proceedings of the assembly. Chiefs have been encouraged to pay visits to the larger centres and several of the more important of them have recently visited Lagos.

### **Southern Provinces.**

20. The policy of Native Administration was first applied to the Abeokuta, Oyo, Ijebu and Ondo Provinces and to parts of Benin Province between the years 1919 and 1921. It was introduced into the Cameroons Province in 1921 but it was not of general application in the Southern Provinces until 1928. On this account and on account of the different origins and stages of development of the various tribes the constitution and operation of the Native Administrations are markedly dissimilar. It is possible, however, to divide them into two major groups, one of which comprises the Abeokuta, Oyo, Ijebu and Ondo Provinces inhabited by the various clans of the Yoruba tribe and parts of Benin Province, while the other covers the remaining areas of the Southern Provinces.

21. The first category contains comparatively well organised African states which had, up to the time of the introduction of Native Administration, maintained, to a large degree, their indigenous forms of organisation, and had been ruled through their chiefs, such as the Alafin of Oyo and the Oni of Ife. The Native Administrations are, therefore, constituted under the control of such chiefs or of confederations of chiefs who utilise their subordinate indigenous organisations in the administration of their respective areas. The autocratic powers of these chiefs are limited by the provision of a council and, in order to enlist the support of the literate classes these councils have, in certain cases, been strengthened by co-opting persons in virtue of their educational attainments rather than their traditional prerogatives. These Native Administrations exercise a very considerable degree of control over the Native Treasuries and, although Government Ordinances continue to apply, responsibility for enforcing many provisions of the laws is, at the request of the chiefs and councils concerned, being assumed by the Native Authorities. Minor legislation is also carried out by these authorities under the Native Authority Ordinance by means of rules designed, for example, to control markets or to protect particular trades. Public Works of



varying degrees of magnitude are undertaken and maintained under the control of these Administrations. Briefly, therefore, it may be said that gradually with increased experience, efficiency and confidence these Native Administrations are assuming part of the responsibility which has hitherto been borne entirely by Government. In the Ondo, Ijebu and Oyo Provinces and in the Ilaro Division of the Abeokuta Province, researches into the indigenous customs of the people, begun in 1933, have been continued. As a result of these researches it has been found necessary to modify the system of Native Administration in certain areas and reorganisation has proceeded along more traditional lines than in the past. The changes effected or proposed have the full support of the people and the enthusiasm manifested is a happy augury for future success.

22. In the second category are comprised tribes of varying degrees of development, none of which has reached the stage achieved by those of the first division. The constitution of the Native Administrations of these areas has, with certain exceptions, not yet been finally determined and every effort is now being made to find satisfactory solutions to the many problems which arise in the attempt to evolve a system of Native Administration based on the indigenous organisations. The problem is rendered none the less difficult from the fact that all these people have already experienced a considerable period of direct European rule. One of the chief tasks of Government in these areas is to increase the administrative experience, efficiency and confidence of the indigenous institutions, which were in many cases called into existence by social rather than administrative requirements as we understand them to-day. It follows therefore that the training of the reorganised Councils and their officials will be a slow and lengthy process.

23. During the past year the steady progress noted in 1933 has been well maintained. Fifty-one intelligence reports on individual clans or similar homogeneous units have received the final approval of Government. A further twenty-four reports have been submitted but have not yet been approved, usually because further information has been found necessary to clear up difficult or obscure points. The total reports submitted to date is 199. The results of the earlier reorganisation schemes are now becoming apparent and in all provinces a note of quiet optimism prevails. The compilation of these reports and the subsequent supervision of the newly formed organisations have continued to ensure that close contact between the Administrative Officers and the people which is so essential for an appreciation of the latter's desires and aspirations and thus for their contentment. At the present stage the newly-organised councils



are beginning to find their feet and to gain confidence, and it is a significant fact that in areas where, in the past, tax could only be collected with difficulty under direct European supervision, it has this year been collected in full by the Councils without any extraneous aid.

24. It had already been established that Chieftainship in the South-eastern Provinces is virtually non-existent and that authority is vested in the councils of the Family, Village, or Clan, membership of which may consist variously of the family heads, the members of certain age grades, the holders of certain titles, the priests of certain cults, and men of outstanding wisdom or personality. Recent reports have further made it clear that the composition of these Councils was generally so elastic as to allow of the inclusion of any persons whose proved worth or ability entitled them to respect, regardless of their age or social standing. In the light of this knowledge it seems probable that a means has been found of associating on the Councils which will form the Native Authorities of the future not only those conservative elements which were by ancient custom entitled to membership, but also representatives of those educated, progressive and Christianised communities, without whose support no democratic institution could long survive. It has moreover been emphasised that in the case of primitive communities whose natural tendency to disintegrate has been accelerated by contact with European influences it is necessary that the process of reorganisation should commence with comparatively small units. It is anticipated that when these units are induced to take an increasing part in the management of their own finances they will begin to appreciate the financial limitations imposed by a parochial attitude, and will spontaneously seek to federate with their neighbours and kinsmen, and by pooling their resources to be in a position to promote the welfare of the community to a degree which would be impossible with their own limited funds. At present therefore subsidiary estimates, based on the probable revenue and expenditure of each unit, are being prepared in accordance with the expressed wishes of the people whose representatives are being given every opportunity to take partial or even full responsibility for the control and custody of their funds.

In several reorganised areas small separate Native Treasuries have been formed which should assist materially in bringing home to the Councils that they can only spend what they receive and that Government in the person of the Administrative Officer is not in the literal sense a "money making" machine.

25. In the Warri Province reorganisation was virtually completed by the end of 1933 and the past year has been a period of consolidation. The virility of the new organisation is apparent

and the Councils are now being trained to realise their responsibilities. In the Onitsha Province reorganisation has made steady progress and it is hoped that early in 1935 reports covering the whole province will have been submitted. In the Calabar and Owerri Provinces reorganisation has gone steadily ahead and continues to arouse the interest and enthusiasm of the people, the Christian and educated elements co-operating with the more conservative elements of the community. In the Cameroons Province, where there has been active investigation of indigenous society for a number of years, the recent reorganisation of important clans in two Divisions has been followed by similar research in other areas, with a view to introducing in them such changes as are proved advantageous in the clans already reorganised.

### CHAPTER III.

### POPULATION.

#### Tribal Distribution.

26. Physically the people of Nigeria belong in the south to the West Coast Negro type; in the north this is still the predominant element but in places has been mixed with Eurafrican (Hamitic) and in some places Nilotic Negro types, in varying degrees. Some groups of people, e.g., the Cattle Fulani are said to be predominantly Eurafrican with but little negro admixture. It is more customary however to regard the inhabitants as a number of tribes each bound together by linguistic and cultural affinities. In the 1931 Census ten main tribes or tribal groups have been distinguished whose total population is as follows:—

Hausa	...	...	...	...	...	3,604,016
Ibo	...	...	...	...	...	3,172,789
Yoruba	...	...	...	...	...	3,166,154
Fulani	...	...	...	...	...	2,025,189
Kanuri (or Beri-Beri)	...	...	...	...	...	930,917
Ibibio	...	...	...	...	...	749,645
Tiv (or Munshi)	...	...	...	...	...	573,605
Edo	...	...	...	...	...	507,810
Nupe	...	...	...	...	...	326,017
Ijaw	...	...	...	...	...	156,324

Of the above the Hausa, Fulani, Kanuri, Munshi and Nupe tribes are found in the Northern Provinces, the Ibo, Ibibio, Edo and Ijaw in the Southern Provinces. The Yoruba is found in both but the bulk of the tribe is in the Southern Provinces. There is also a great number of other smaller tribes or remnants of tribes, too numerous to enumerate separately—whose combined population amounts to 4,683,044. With the exception of the



Cameroons Province and part of the Ogoja and Calabar Provinces these are mainly confined to the Northern Provinces. Those of them who have adopted Islam generally employ the Hausa language which, like Swahili in East Africa, but to a much more limited extent, is tending to become the *lingua franca* of the Northern Provinces.

### General.

27. The population of Nigeria, including Mandated Territory, as found from the Census of April, 1931, was 19,928,171 persons, inclusive of Natives of Nigeria, Native Foreigners and Non-Natives.<sup>(1)</sup> The parts of the population residing in the different Administrative areas of Nigeria are as follows:—

	Area in Square Miles.	Population.
Northern Provinces (including Mandated and Non-Mandated Territory) ...	281,778	11,434,924
Northern Provinces (excluding Mandated Territory) ... ..	264,278	11,012,484
Northern Provinces Mandated Territory only ... ..	17,500	422,440
Southern Provinces (including Mandated and Non-Mandated Territory) ...	90,896	8,493,247
Southern Provinces (excluding Mandated Territory) ... ..	74,315	8,118,375
Southern Provinces Mandated Territory only ... ..	16,581	374,872

Thus the total population of Nigeria, excluding Mandated Territory, is 19,130,859, while Mandated Territory alone comprises 797,312 persons.

28. The total area of Nigeria, including Mandated Territory, is 372,674 square miles, giving an average density of population of 53.5 persons per square mile. The density for Nigeria, excluding Mandated Territory, is 56.5, while for Mandated Territory only it falls to 16.4 persons per square mile. Particulars of the population and density for each province are given in Table I at the end of this chapter.

29. Table II gives the percentage composition of the whole population by sex and adolescence for each province. For the whole of Nigeria there are, according to the Census figures, 1,115 adult females and 1,291 children per 1,000 adult males.

<sup>(1)</sup> This figure must be taken as the 'official' population. The actual population almost certainly exceeds 20 millions. The figures of the Southern Provinces, where (apart from Lagos) no Census proper was held, must be regarded as only rough approximations.

30. The excess of adult females over adult males is almost identical in the Northern and Southern Provinces; in spite of the marked difference in their climatic and economic conditions.<sup>(1)</sup> The number of children under 15, per 1,000 adult males is 1,154 in the Northern Provinces, while the reported figures for the Southern Provinces give 1,496 children to a 1,000 adult males. The latter figure may be an excessive estimate, as a few counts in limited areas of the Southern Provinces show only 1,232 children per 1,000 adult males, and the most reasonable estimate for the Southern Provinces (*vide* Volume I, page 21 of the Census of Nigeria, 1931) would appear to be 1,300 children per 1,000 adult males. The difference in the proportion of children in the Northern and Southern Provinces, if these figures are correct, suggests that there is either a greater adult mortality in the South, or that the birth-rate in the South is tending to rise. The latter contingency is unlikely in view of the general fall of the birth-rate all over the world and in the only part of Nigeria for which adequate vital registration exists.

### Birth and Death Rates.

31. The registration of vital statistics has been in existence in Lagos since 1867, and has during the present century reached a very fair standard of accuracy. Outside Lagos registration of births and deaths of natives has hitherto been lacking, except in some of the better organised Emirates of the North. The Emir of Katsina introduced registration in Katsina Town in 1911 and since then a number of other Northern Provinces Emirates has followed suit; so that at the present time returns are received from various Emirates in the provinces of Adamawa, Benue, Bornu, Kano, Niger and the Plateau, while data are also available for several individual towns, since 1928 or 1929. Except in a few cases the registration is defective, but is clearly improving, and in a few cases the resultant crude birth and death-rates probably provide some indication of the facts. The more reliable Northern Provinces vital registration areas show the following figures for 1930:—

Province.	Place.	Population 1931.	Crude Rates per Mille.	
			Birth.	Death.
Benue ...	Abinsi Town ...	1,339	73	35
„ ...	Doma „ ...	4,953	52	42
Kano ...	Kano City ...	89,162	35	30
„ ...	Hadejia Emirate ...	198,168	30	29
Plateau ...	Jos Hausa Settlement	5,681	34	52

<sup>(1)</sup> In India, for example, there is a marked excess of males in the dry and sub-humid areas of the North, replaced by something approaching equality in the humid parts of Southern India.



It must be borne in mind that towns, particularly the larger ones in Nigeria, usually contain an abnormal proportion of the reproductive and death-resistant fraction of the population between the ages of fifteen and forty-five, so that the number of births is spuriously large and the number of deaths spuriously low, as compared to an area unaffected by emigration and immigration. A correction factor has to be applied to the crude birth and death-rates to towns largely composed of immigrants. Thus for Lagos in 1931 the crude birth and death-rates must be multiplied by 0.89 and 1.37 respectively to give standardised rates. Somewhat similar corrections are probably required for the Northern Provinces towns referred to above.

32. Our only exact knowledge of the *trend* of the birth-rates and death-rates is derived from Lagos data, for which the corrected rates are given below for some of the last 23 years:—

LAGOS ' CORRECTED ' BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

(including Ebute Metta, Apapa and the Urban Area generally.)

Year.	Birth-rate.	Death-rate.
1911	29.5	36.6
1916	24.9	30.3
1921	24.5	31.1
1926	24.1	34.0
1927	23.4	25.2
1928	23.0	26.1
1929	23.3	22.3
1930	23.0	20.5
1931	22.3	17.8
1932	24.6	17.9
1933	22.1	18.9
*1934	27.8	13.05

\* Crude Rates.

As the expectation of life of Males in the decade 1921/30 was 36.4 years, and in 1931 (Yoruba Males) was 40.1 years, there has been a relatively steady improvement in longevity in Lagos—during recent years not that the mortality has increased: but that clearly longevity cannot be increased indefinitely. Apart from improvement in sanitary conditions there is the factor of the immigrant population from the countryside into Lagos, which consists mainly of the virile elements between twenty-five and thirty-five.

This immigration has been intense during the past three years, possibly owing to the facilities Lagos affords for escaping taxation. The defaulting 'bush' tax-payer saves money and years of life by coming to Lagos.

33. Outside Lagos the evidence for longevity is less definite: but the evidence provided by the Intensive Census in the Katsina Emirate and by the Medical Censuses indicates that the expectation of life at birth is from twenty-two to twenty-five years for persons living in the rural areas in Nigeria.

### Infantile Mortality.

34. Fairly exact figures are available in Lagos, and the data obtained from the areas visited by the Medical Census Officers in 1930/31/32 are moderately reliable. The following are the estimates of infantile mortality in rural areas obtained in the Medical Census:—

Cameroons, Forest Zone ...	289	per 1,000 live births.
Cameroons, Hill Zone ...	251	„ „ „ „
Creek Area ... ..	233	„ „ „ „
Bakori (Zaria Province) ...	182	„ „ „ „
Laminga (Benue Province)	252	„ „ „ „

For Lagos township (including Ebute Metta) there has been a drop in the infantile mortality, which in 1900 stood at the high figure of 430 per mille of live births, to 102 in 1932.

35. The figures for some recent years for Lagos including Ebute Metta are shown in the table below which gives also the percentage of still births:—

Year.	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 live births.	Still births per cent on live births.
1921	285	5·6
1923	264	5·0
1925	238	4·1
1927	175	3·2
1930	129	3·6
1931	112	2·3
1932	102	3·4
1933	137	3·0
1934	119	2·5

Of the whole mortality in the first year forty-three per cent occurs in the first month of life, as judged from the 1930-31 data of Lagos Township.



## Fertility.

36. The evidence provided by the Intensive and Medical Censuses shows that the average number of live births per woman for completed marriages, that is to say, for women attaining the age of forty or over, varies from about five among Hausas and Fulani in the North, to 7.6 among the Ijaws of the Ondo Province in the South. Among the Northern Provinces tribes the Fulani and Tuareg have the highest and the Nupe the lowest effective fertility, as determined by the number of children alive per mother. This is consistent with the large increase in the number of Tuaregs during the decade 1921-31, and with the decrease in the number of Nupes, who show a fall of 5.8 per cent in numbers during the period. The increase in the number of Fulani (3.9 per cent) is not as large as might have been expected from their fertility: but the factors of death and migration may account for the difference between the expected and actual increase in population.

37. Fertility falls off rapidly with age over the whole reproductive period, particularly among the Ijaws, among whom a woman of thirty-six has a potential fertility of less than one-sixth of a woman of seventeen years of age. The general trend of fertility and age follows that found for women in Northern India, where, however, the falling-off of reproductive capacity with age is somewhat smaller than it is in Nigeria.

38. The stature of certain tribes is as follows:—

Tribe.	Mean Stature.		Sex difference in height.
	Males.	Females.	
	' "	' "	"
Kanuri (Beri-beri) ...	5 5·9	5 1·6	4·3
Yoruba ...	5 5·8	5 2·3	3·5
Fulani ...	5 5·8	5 1·9	3·9
Hausa ...	5 5·6	5 2·0	3·6
Banyangi ...	5 5·0	5 0·9	4·1
Ekwe ...	5 4·8	5 1·2	3·6
Keaka ...	5 4·7	5 0·5	4·2
Assumbo ...	5 4·5	5 0·4	4·1
Ijaw ...	5 2·7	4 10·8	3·9



As compared to the East African tribes of the Masai and Kikuyu, who have a mean stature of 5' 7.6" and 5' 4.7" for males and 5' 2.1" and 5' 0.0" for females, it appears that the females among Nigerian tribes are of about the same height as the females in East Africa, while male Masai have an advantage over any of the Nigerian tribes specified. The East African Kikuyu would come rather low in the scale of stature for Nigerian tribes.

### Migration.

39. The estimated number of immigrants from outside Nigeria is just over 240,000 persons. Over eighty per cent of native foreigners in Nigeria are immigrant, while ninety-eight per cent of non-natives come from countries outside Nigeria.

40. The total numbers of native foreigners and non-natives in Nigeria in 1931, the year of the last census were as follows:—

	Native Foreigners.	Non-Natives.
Nigeria ... ..	27,207	5,442
Northern Provinces ...	10,589	1,825
Southern Provinces ...	16,618	3,617

41. The classification of non-natives in 1931 was as follows:—

	Northern Provinces.	Southern Provinces.	Nigeria.
1. British ... ..	1,217	2,474	3,691
2. Syrians ... ..	104	235	339
3. German .. ...	7	258	265
4. French ... ..	38	108	146
5. Indians ... ..	39	96	135
6. Americans (U.S.)	91	35	126
7. Others ... ..	329	411	740
TOTAL ... ..	1,825	3,617	5,442

The extent of emigration from Nigeria is not known: but estimates of the extent of pilgrimage to Mecca and the Sudan show that about 73,000 natives of Nigeria are spread out at any one time between Lake Chad and Arabia. The total number of emigrants from Nigeria must be considerably in excess of this number.

42. Some indication of the movement of persons to and from Nigeria is afforded by the following table showing the passengers arriving and departing from Lagos by sea or river:—

Year.	Non-Natives.		Natives and Native Foreigners.		
	Arriving.	Departing.	Arriving. (Deck and	Departing. 3rd Class).	
1928	4,024	3,015	11,003	11,787	Mainly to Accra and Sierra Leone. Also some to Dakar, Fernando Po and Boma.
1929	4,508	3,095	10,687	11,247	
1930	4,721	3,435	10,434	9,863	
1931	3,322	3,750	7,503	6,916	
1932	3,252	3,526	7,239	7,256	
1933	3,775	3,423	6,919	7,201	
1934	3,496	3,356	6,014	6,592	

Of the natives and native foreigners arriving in and leaving Lagos about 2,500 each way would represent travellers by inland waterways, who for the most part would remain in the country.

43. The internal movement within Nigeria is very large, many villages in the Northern Provinces, particularly those near the Northern border, containing more than fifty per cent of persons who are immigrant from other localities. Lagos Township in 1931 had 58 per cent of persons who were born outside the Municipal Area, and Kano is reported to have a 'floating' population of over



TABLE I.  
POPULATION OF NIGERIA BY PROVINCES, SEX AND ADOLESCENCE (¹).

Province.	Area in Square Miles.	POPULATION.					Density per Square Mile.
		Total.	ADULTS.		NON-ADULTS.		
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
NIGERIA	...	19,928,171	5,850,701	6,521,952	3,728,784	3,826,734	53
NORTHERN PROVINCES	...	11,434,924	3,499,225	3,898,479	2,041,237	1,995,983	41
Adamawa	...	652,361	215,760	244,712	97,421	94,468	19
Bauchi	...	1,025,310	304,978	357,613	181,414	181,305	39
Benue	...	987,358	293,323	304,630	197,596	191,809	35
Bornu	...	1,118,360	317,495	411,282	189,031	200,552	24
Ilorin	...	537,559	147,986	186,654	100,411	102,508	30
Kabba	...	462,726	130,871	158,551	85,533	87,771	44
Kano ...	...	2,436,844	839,416	825,641	388,865	382,922	138
Niger	...	473,067	160,210	174,895	68,852	69,110	19
Plateau	...	568,738	202,695	187,899	85,336	92,808	52
Sokoto	...	1,815,178	525,161	613,879	344,466	331,672	45
Zaria ...	...	1,357,423	361,330	432,723	302,312	261,058	56
SOUTHERN PROVINCES	...	8,493,247	2,351,476	2,623,473	1,687,547	1,830,751	93
Colony	...	325,020	97,624	95,186	64,708	67,502	235
Abeokuta	...	434,526	125,570	164,059	64,438	80,459	102
Benin...	...	493,215	142,033	148,184	98,988	104,010	57
Calabar	...	899,503	258,700	273,127	179,278	188,398	142
Cameroons	...	374,872	118,331	128,653	66,000	61,888	23
Ijebu ...	...	305,898	60,626	87,086	63,361	94,825	125
Ogoja...	...	708,538	182,304	206,123	156,193	163,918	94
Ondo ..	...	462,560	134,403	151,278	81,818	95,061	56
Onitsha	...	1,107,745	351,080	350,617	201,163	204,885	224
Owerri	...	1,599,909	459,848	498,601	317,147	324,313	154
Oyo ...	...	1,336,928	299,449	370,797	308,890	357,792	94
Warri...	...	444,533	121,508	149,762	85,563	87,700	74

(¹) Non-Adults include those below the 15th birthday.

N.B.—As there has been no census since 1931 the figures given in the table are—apart from census errors—only approximate to the true figures for 1933.

TABLE II.

TABLE SHOWING PERCENTAGE OF ADULT MALES AND FEMALES AND  
NON-ADULTS (UNDER 15) FOR EACH PROVINCE IN NIGERIA.

1931 CENSUS FIGURES.

Province.	PERCENTAGE.		
	ADULTS.		Children.
	Males.	Females.	
NIGERIA ... ..	29·3	32·7	37·9
NORTHERN PROVINCES ... ..	30·6	34·1	35·3
Adamawa ... ..	33·1	37·5	29·4
Bauchi ... ..	29·7	34·9	35·4
Benue ... ..	29·7	30·9	39·4
Bornu... ..	28·4	36·8	34·8
Ilorin ... ..	27·5	34·7	37·7
Kabba ... ..	28·3	34·3	37·4
Kano ... ..	34·4	33·9	31·7
Niger ... ..	33·9	37·0	29·2
Plateau ... ..	35·6	33·0	31·3
Sokoto ... ..	28·9	33·8	37·2
Zaria ... ..	26·6	31·8	41·5
SOUTHERN PROVINCES ... ..	27·7	30·9	41·4
Colony ... ..	30·0	29·3	40·7
Abeokuta ... ..	28·9	37·7	33·3
Benin ... ..	28·8	30·0	41·1
Calabar ... ..	28·8	30·4	40·9
Cameroons ... ..	31·6	34·3	34·1
Ijebu ... ..	19·8	28·5	51·7
Ogoja ... ..	25·7	29·1	45·2
Ondo ... ..	29·0	32·7	38·2
Onitsha ... ..	31·7	31·6	36·6
Owerri ... ..	28·7	31·2	40·1
Oyo ... ..	22·4	27·7	49·9
Warri ... ..	27·3	33·7	39·0

15 per cent. To this latter figure a percentage of the so-called 'permanent' population must be added to give the total number of immigrants. Large mercantile towns, such as Lagos, attract, in particular, the persons of the younger adult ages, who come in great numbers between the ages of 20 and 30 in search of a livelihood. A large proportion of these return to their homes after the age of 40. In the remoter districts, such as those of the Cameroons, internal movement is much smaller, over 98 per cent of the persons enumerated in certain of the Forest and Hill Zone villages, having been born locally.



## CHAPTER IV.

## HEALTH.

## Main Diseases and Mortality.

44. Epidemic and infectious diseases form the largest single disease group. Thus, of 622,928 patients who came under treatment at Government Institutions during 1933, 28.33 per cent fell into this group, and an analysis of the diseases of the group treated was as follows:—

Yaws	...	...	49.18%
Malaria	...	...	19.98%
Syphilis	...	...	7.92%
Gonorrhœa	...	...	8.59%
Dysentery	...	...	2.71%
Leprosy	...	...	2.75%
Tuberculosis	...	...	0.40%
Influenza	...	...	1.08%
Smallpox	...	...	0.39%
Other Diseases	...	...	9.75%

Of the 2,958 deaths which occurred at Government Institutions during 1933, the causes of death were grouped as follows:—

Epidemic and Infectious Diseases	...	24.85%
Affections of Respiratory System	...	20.72%
Affections of Digestive System	...	12.06%
Affections of Nervous System	...	4.46%
Other Diseases	...	30.61%

45. During 1934, two cases of Yellow Fever occurred at Kano—both Europeans who recovered. One of these cases apparently contracted the disease whilst travelling in the Gaya District some sixty miles east of Kano.

46. Smallpox was again prevalent throughout the Northern Provinces during the dry season of 1934, the incidence declining with the advent of the rains.

In the Southern Provinces there were outbreaks in the south-western Provinces. Intensive vaccination campaigns soon brought these outbreaks to an end.

47. Plague seems to have disappeared from Nigeria, the last cases being recorded in April, 1931. The plague incidence in Lagos, since its appearance in 1924, has been as follows:—

<i>Years.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>
1924 ... ..	414
1925 ... ..	104
1926 ... ..	497
1927 ... ..	155
1928 ... ..	519
1929 ... ..	188
1930 ... ..	65
1931 ... ..	5
1932 ... ..	Nil
1933 ... ..	Nil
1934 ... ..	Nil

48. Malaria is still extremely prevalent and work upon infants and school children in Lagos and other towns indicates that practically 100 per cent of African children are infected within the first year of life. Cases came under treatment in 1933 as follows:—

<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
Malaria ... ..	928	Nil
Blackwater ... ..	12	1
<i>African and other</i>		
<i>non-Europeans.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
Malaria ... ..	34,594	36
Blackwater ... ..	17	4

49. Sleeping sickness occurs in endemic and epidemic forms in regions of the Northern Provinces to a lesser degree in some parts of the Southern Provinces and in the Southern part of the Cameroons Province. Some 27,919 cases came under treatment during 1933.

50. Venereal diseases are widespread. During 1933, 86,748 cases of yaws, 16,286 cases of syphilis and 15,180 cases of gonorrhœa received treatment. Venereal diseases clinics are held at all African hospitals and early treatment rooms are available at military and police barracks. A clinic for seamen was opened at Apapa for the port of Lagos during 1931.

51. The population of Nigeria is largely agricultural and occupational diseases are practically non-existent. The sickness rate at labour camps such as those of the tin mines on the Bauchi Plateau, the cocoa plantations in the Cameroons and camps upon railway constructions has not been high.



## Provisions for Treatment.

### (a) *Medical and Health Staff.*

52. The staff of the Medical and Health Department consists of 111 European Medical Officers including Administrative, Specialist, Pathologist and Research Officers, nine African Medical Officers, and two Junior African Medical Officers. There are two European Dentists. The Nursing staff consists of fifty-seven European Nursing Sisters and 511 African Nurses and Midwives. The Health Service includes 15 European Health Officers, 33 European Sanitary Superintendents and 126 African Sanitary Inspectors.

53. Much attention is given to the training of African personnel. At Yaba, near Lagos, there is situated a Medical Training College where students are trained as dispensers and chemists and druggists. Students, being trained as medical assistants, receive their pre-medical tuition at the Higher College and their professional training at the African Hospital, Lagos, and in special laboratories at Yaba. The course for dispensers is spread over three years, for chemists and druggists two additional years and for medical assistants five years, including two years' hospital practice. The respective examinations are controlled by the Board of Medical Examiners.

54. At Lagos there is a well-equipped training centre for sanitary inspectors. The course of study lasts for three years, of which the final year consists of practical work under supervision. A training centre for lads in the Northern Provinces was established at Kano in 1931, one at Ibadan, in the Southern Provinces, during 1933, and a third at Umudike in 1934 to serve the Eastern part of the Southern Provinces.

### (b) *Hospitals and Dispensaries.*

55. There are twelve European Hospitals providing a total of 145 beds. The work carried out may be gathered from figures for the past three years:—

	1931.	1932.	1933.
In-patients ...	1,245	1,010	1,030
Out-patients ...	7,630	5,912	6,058

The decrease in the last two years is partly due to the reduction in Government European staff.

There are fifty-six African Hospitals containing 3,218 beds. Some of these hospitals have been built by the Native Administrations. The largest African Hospital is at Lagos; this hospital has been entirely rebuilt upon modern lines and was re-opened in 1931. It contains 202 beds.

56. The Kano City Native Administration Hospital continues to expand. The new operating theatre has been completed, a new ward is nearing completion and an X-ray apparatus has been installed. One more ward remains to be built to complete the Hospital to the original plan. Considerable progress has been made on the female side. All the wards are full. At Hadejia a new Native Administration Hospital is being built to serve the four Emirates of the Northern Division of Kano Province. At Azare in Bauchi Province substantial additions have been made to the existing hospital. At Gusau the Sokoto Native Administration has built a new hospital for Africans which is much appreciated by the people.

57. The work performed at African Hospitals may be seen from the figures taken from the past three years' reports:—

	1931.	1932.	1933.
In-patients ...	35,738	41,577	45,233
Out-patients ...	481,759	541,517	570,607

58. A widely spread system of dispensaries came into operation in 1931. The Attendants who serve these are given one year's intensive training at convenient centres in the country in the use of a strictly standardised equipment of drugs and dressings, and the dispensaries are visited at regular intervals by the Medical staff. There are now 222 Native Administration dispensaries open. Ninety-six in the Northern Provinces, 122 in the Southern Provinces and four in the Colony. The cases treated in 1933 numbered:—

Northern Provinces ...	... 252,257
Southern Provinces ...	... 366,931

59. There are fourteen different Missionary Societies in Nigeria who are carrying out some medical work. This mainly consists of dispensary treatment given by holders of Missionary Dispenser Permits, but there are also seventeen hospitals and twenty-two fully qualified Missionary Doctors who do excellent work.

### Preventive Measures.

60. Progress continues to be made in the improvement of sanitary conditions in the larger African towns, working through the Native Administrations. The experiments made in Lagos in connexion with septic tank latrines and nightsoil disintegrators proved highly successful and one tank latrine and a disintegrator have been in use during the year. A scheme for replacing most of the public latrines in Lagos, which were either of the bucket variety or set on piers emptying directly into the lagoon by tank latrines was approved, and work put in hand during 1934.



61. The supply of pipe-borne water is a matter receiving close attention. A number of important towns have installations and for others preparatory investigations are being made. Surveys made by the Yellow Fever Commission of the Rockefeller Foundation have shown the immense importance of water supplies, the *Aedes* index being surprisingly high in some of the towns in the Northern Provinces where Mohammedan prejudice makes house inspection difficult to carry out. This is being slowly overcome in certain Mohammedan towns by the employment of women Sanitary Inspectors.

62. *Research* has been curtailed to some extent owing to the financial depression but the Research Institute at Yaba, near Lagos, provides opportunity for bacteriological and pathological research, and experimental work on the production of vaccine lymph upon a large scale is still in progress there. Research upon schistosomiasis commenced in 1931 from assistance given by a grant from the Colonial Development Fund was continued, as was the work of the Dietetics Pathologist and of the tsetse fly and trypanosomiasis research team at Gadau in the Northern Provinces.

63. Campaigns for treatment and prevention of *sleeping sickness* are being vigorously pursued and some 27,919 cases of the disease have been treated during the year. Detailed surveys are being made in districts in which the disease is endemic, combined with examination of the whole population of the area. Unfortunately the further this investigation proceeds the more it becomes evident how widespread sleeping sickness is. This work is carried out by two teams, the survey team followed by the treatment team, both teams consisting of trained Africans working under European medical supervision. Six such double teams are in action.

64. *Maternity and Child Welfare* work is receiving an increased amount of attention. There are two Government Maternity Hospitals, at Lagos and Abeokuta, where African Midwives receive training. The African hospitals throughout the country have women's wards where maternity cases are admitted. Maternity work forms an important part of the work of some of the medical missions, particularly at Ilesha and Ogbomosho and also at Iyi-Enu (near Onitsha). The maternity hospital opened there in 1931 by the Church Missionary Society has proved a great success. Local women are now receiving training as Midwives at it. The difficult task of reaching the "Kubli" (purdah) women in Mohammedan towns was commenced in 1930 when centres were opened at Kano and Katsina. New Maternity hospitals have been opened at Ilorin, Calabar and Aba.

65. Child welfare work is also increasing in extent. Two welfare centres are being maintained in the Lagos area and are well attended; a Lady Medical Officer, European Nursing Sister and a staff of African Health Visitors are engaged upon this work. This work forms an increasing part of the duty of European Nursing Sisters at African hospitals throughout the country and fifteen centres of this nature are functioning.

66. The *School Clinic* in Lagos is under the control of a full-time School Medical Officer and fully equipped new clinics were opened during 1932 at Abeokuta, Ibadan and Port Harcourt, each directed by the Medical Officer of Health of the district. The opening of these new clinics was made possible by a grant from the Colonial Development Fund.

67. *Treatment of leprosy* is being developed upon the lines of the formation of farming settlements. At Itu in Calabar Province the United Free Church of Scotland has established a colony, with financial assistance from Government, where the average number of lepers under treatment was 1,252. A colony to accommodate 500 lepers has been built in Benin Province from funds granted by the Colonial Development Fund and is maintained by the Native Administration. Several colonies in the Northern Provinces are being maintained by Native Administrations. A leper colony with accommodation for 500 lepers has been opened at Uzuakoli. A Medical Officer is provided by the Methodist Mission and the colony is maintained by the Owerri Native Administration. A leprosy Medical Officer was engaged during the year, his salary being reimbursed by the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association and Kano Native Administration. He will be posted to the new leper colony which is under construction at Sumaila in Kano Province. In all there are twenty-three main treatment centres and the average population of these was 4,860.

68. *Health education* of the population continued to make progress during 1934. Arrangements were made, by means of grants from the Colonial Development Fund, to erect model sanitary structures in various Native Administration areas in the Northern and Southern Provinces. Further progress was made also in the production of local health films.

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## CHAPTER V.

### HOUSING.

69. The vast bulk of the population of Nigeria is agricultural and the people live in houses of their own construction. Judged by European standards of comfort these houses may leave much to be desired, but in fact they are warm and dry and often clean and the people are well satisfied with them. The Nigeria native



spends most of his time in the open air regarding his house chiefly as a place in which he can keep his possessions and where he may sleep securely at night. Only in towns which through increased trade have received a large influx of people in the immediate past is there any approach to European conditions of congestion and overcrowding or any departure from the custom, almost universal in Nigeria, which provides that each married man or woman should possess a house or hut of his or her own.

70. The character of the housing accommodation of the wage-earning portion of the population varies considerably but it may be said generally that the type of accommodation available is suitable and adequate for the workers. In the large centres and in easily accessible places more and more houses of a European type are being built for the wage earners, either of cement with corrugated iron roofs or in the absence of cement, of dried mud blocks. In the more remote parts the local architecture is retained but the old type of native house is frequently improved by the addition of properly made doors and windows. At Makurdi a few houses have recently been built of burnt brick, following the example set in recent buildings for the African Hospital and Catholic Mission. The construction of permanent types of houses has naturally been considerably restricted as a result of the economic position.

71. In the larger stations members of the Government African clerical staff live in permanent concrete houses which are rented to them by Government, while in smaller stations they live in temporary houses of local construction which are supplied rent free.

72. A large number of labourers find accommodation in houses of purely native construction and in some cases appear to prefer them. Actual instances indeed can be recorded where well-constructed houses of European design have been spurned by the labourers for whom they were built because they preferred the small hut of native construction. The employment of a large number of labourers is of a temporary nature in the dry season during which time they live in rough grass houses. Where large bodies of labour come together, as, for example, in the case of railway work, their camps are effectually supervised by the sanitary authorities. The Labour Ordinance (No. 1 of 1929) provides, in cases where a large number of labourers are employed in any particular spot, for it to be declared a "Labour Health Area", and the regulations which apply to such areas ensure adequate housing and sanitary conditions and allow for medical and administrative inspection. Elsewhere the Public Health Ordinance (Chapter 56 of the Laws of Nigeria) is applied to certain areas, mostly townships, and this allows for inspection of sanitary conditions and for other ameliorative measures.

73. The following paragraphs give an outline of the housing conditions prevalent in the Northern and the Southern Provinces and in Lagos where conditions are exceptional and where severe overcrowding in the past has now caused the questions of housing and sanitation to become problems of considerable magnitude.

### Northern Provinces.

74. In the Northern Provinces the most common form of native dwelling is a round hut of plain mud walls with a conical thatched roof; the style varies greatly according to the locality from the egg-shell walls of the Nupe huts to the thicker mud-work more common elsewhere. Few of these houses have verandahs though there is fair projection of the eaves. In the areas south of the Niger, where there has been Yoruba influence, there is to be found the typical rectangular Yoruba mud house with a thatched roof of grass, and usually a mud ceiling on timber. In the north there are flat-roofed houses, sometimes of two stories, with substantial mud walls and a dignified appearance. In the houses of the great there is a comparatively high standard of design, embodying the use of pillars, arches and flat domes. Construction is generally of native sun-dried brick made from clay mixed with chopped grass, the flat or domed roofs being held on supports cantilevered out from the walls and having the appearance of arches. These supports are reinforced with lengths of some hard and ant-resisting local timber, e.g., split debeb palm or some of the varieties of gum tree. The method of roof construction is to place a mattress of green withies over the domes spanning the supports and on this mattress to lay about nine inches of swamp clay. The pronounced dome section gives a quick run-off to rain water and so reduces leakage, but a weather-proof coating is generally used consisting of a plaster made by burning the scrapings from the walls of dye-pits. Experiments are being carried out with a view to improving this type of roof construction and satisfactory results have been obtained by substituting light-gauge corrugated iron sheets for the withies and reducing the thickness of the clay covering to three inches.

75. Methods of weather proofing outside walls are also being investigated and experiments are in progress. Rendering with mixtures of cement and sand, oiling and tarring are all being tried. One of the main drawbacks to buildings constructed of native brickwork is their liability to infestation by termites—except within the walls of the older towns—and various methods have been employed in attempts to eliminate this objection but so far without complete success. The use of steel door frames and metal windows and shutters is gradually being introduced in these buildings of local construction and there seem to be possibilities in the use of light steel framed roof



76. As an encouragement to improvement of housing conditions the Native Administration Workshops in many places have made doors, shutters and simple furniture for sale to private individuals. Concrete floors are appreciated in some cases but the high cost of cement prevents their general adoption.

77. It is rare for the round houses to be two-storied, except among some of the pagan tribes. These two-storied huts which are only a few feet in diameter are built in clusters with the walls touching so as to give mutual support. The nomad Fulani live in "bee-hive" huts entirely made of grass over a rough frame-work of guinea-corn stalks.

78. Whatever their nature the houses, except for the most temporary type, are formed into compounds, sometimes by building in the spaces between the huts, sometimes by a wall of mud or matting surrounding the huts. The entrance to the compound is through a separate hut which is not only a gateway but the centre of family life and the lodging of the stranger. The inhabitants of a compound are usually members of the same family or kindred; each adult man or woman usually having a separate hut. Young children sleep with their parents. There is little furniture beyond small wooden stools and mats and the ordinary native culinary equipment. Houses are owned and built by the occupiers on land granted to them free by the community, except in towns where there are professional builders or where it is possible to rent lodgings in the houses of others. In normal times the ordinary round hut would cost between ten shillings and forty shillings to build and the flat-roofed Kano type of house of the simplest nature not less than £15.

79. Corn is stored in the compounds as a rule in granaries and bins of mud which often have most graceful shapes, but sometimes in store pits in the ground. Large mud buildings are also used for the storage of grain, particularly millet, and it has been found that by treating the floors and walls with a mixture of wood ash and various local herbs millet on the stalk can be preserved in good condition for as long as nine years. Guinea corn however does not seem to be capable of storage for more than three to four years. The possibilities of constructing grain silos in reinforced concrete and concrete blockwork have been investigated, but here again the high cost of imported cement precludes construction at the present time.

80. The sanitary condition of the larger towns leaves something to be desired but steps are being taken by constant instruction and, in the more advanced places, by organised inspection to secure attention to the ordinary sanitary usages which have been codified and widely circulated in a series of simple "Observances." The Native Authority gives directions regarding the repair of houses in a dilapidated condition.

81. Little attention was paid to the development of local architecture until a few years ago when the architectural branch of the Public Works Department was able, owing to reductions in the Government building programme, to render assistance with the design of buildings for Native Administrations. Considerable progress has been made in the preparation of designs in harmony with local conditions and native styles, using local materials. It is hoped that the erection of public buildings, such as offices and hospitals, will create a general desire for improved types of construction.

### Southern Provinces.

82. In many parts of the Southern Provinces the native type of architecture is giving way almost imperceptibly to the European. In the larger townships, of course, where the standard of living is higher, where European influence is greater, and where local building materials are more difficult and more expensive to obtain, the European type of house outnumbers the native and consists usually of a rectangular bungalow with mud walls—sometimes faced with cement—and a corrugated iron roof. Doors and windows are made of wood, glass being rarely seen. Thus the more wealthy inhabitant of the larger towns is provided with a house which satisfies modern ideas of general comfort. Similar houses are becoming increasingly common in the agricultural areas, the owners being the wealthier members of the younger generation who have in most cases become accustomed to town life during years of employment in towns or Government stations and whose main desire when they return to their homes is to build themselves houses of European style which will distinguish them from the great majority of their fellow villagers. At Ibadan, for example, there is hardly a house without a corrugated iron roof and considerable improvement in design and taste has been brought about in the erection of European types of dwellings as a result of a growing tendency to submit building plans to the Native Administration Engineer for advice. There is also becoming apparent in some of the more advanced towns a desire to have properly laid out areas so that the occupiers may enjoy such amenities as quietness and better sanitation.

83. The native styles of building vary. Round or square huts with rounded corners, with conical grass roofs are common in the more northern parts of the Eastern Provinces, but in general houses are rectangular in shape and are roofed with palm branches, grass and in some parts leaves. Among the Ibibio and some of the Cross River tribes rough mats made out of the leaves of the piassava palm are used for roofing and these people also make their walls of clay plastered on a wooden framework. In



most other parts walls are made of solid clay from one to two feet in thickness, laid on wet in successive courses each course being allowed to dry before another is laid on top of it. Among the swamps and creeks of the Warri and Ondo Provinces huts are often built on piles above the high water level. Building types are in most cases governed by the nature of the materials available in each locality. There is thus a marked division between houses in the rain forest and palm bush zone where grass is scarce and those in the zone to the north of it where it is abundant.

84. Building operations are probably spread over many years and the size of a compound depends on the wealth of the occupant, but the size of the living rooms is invariably restricted by considerations of warmth. Doors are generally so low that a man can only pass through by crouching, and windows are few and small. Except for a few stools and mats furniture is rarely seen, though the well-to-do may possess locally made folding chairs. Bedsteads of European style are only used by the more sophisticated though in some parts beds made of clay under which a fire can be made are used by old men.

### Lagos.

85. Lagos is in the process of transition from a town on the Native African to one on the European plan. The Native unit was the compound of roughly quadrangular form, the huts round a central open space being the dwelling of the descendants of the head of the compound. In course of time the local system of inheritance caused these compounds, often very large, to be split up into smaller and smaller units on a similar plan, the central open space being encroached upon in the process.

86. Further the rise of Lagos as a mercantile and administrative centre caused an influx of people from the interior, who in accordance with their feudal ideas attached themselves to a local chief and in return for small services rendered were given land inside the compounds on which they built their mud and wattle or bamboo shacks.

In time it became evident that these dependent squatters would claim ownership of the land, and, as a safeguard against this, the original compound families imposed a rent. Thus the patriarchal feudal system was broken down and gave way to that of landlord and tenant. The landowners, finding the new method highly profitable, let the open spaces of their compounds to new immigrants until the compounds, in some districts once fairly sanitary, became slums of the most sordid type, described by a plague expert as the worst which he had ever inspected. At the

same time repatriates from Brazil and elsewhere were settling on the island. These had long ceased to be compound dwellers and they, when they had acquired land, built detached houses more or less on the European model.

87. With the formation in 1909 of a Municipal Board for Lagos (now the Lagos Town Council) and the introduction of building and sanitary bye-laws the spread of slum conditions was checked, and as the bye-laws were extended and their enforcement made more effective, conditions began to improve. The principal regulations affecting congestion are those which insist upon buildings being totally detached, and upon dwellings covering not more than fifty per cent of the total area of the property. Thus the tendency is now towards the abolition of the old compound and the construction of wholly detached houses and tenements of moderate size. The bye-laws however can operate only as the older houses are demolished, so that their effect is necessarily slow. The erection of bamboo houses is now absolutely prohibited and corrugated iron dwellings are not permitted except in small defined areas distant from Lagos proper. Nevertheless large numbers of such buildings survive from the time before the bye-laws were operative.

88. Properly planned suburbs have been developed for Europeans to the east of the island and for Africans to the north on the mainland at Yaba, and a town-planning scheme has expedited the work of slum clearance; but the deep-rooted habits and family ties of the native population and the lack of cheap transport facilities which is gradually being overcome by private enterprise have militated against settlement in the suburbs.

89. The town-planning scheme approved in 1927 has been applied to about 150 acres of the more insanitary and congested areas to the north-west of the island. The recently created Lagos Executive Development Board, which implements the scheme, can only deal with about eight to ten acres a year and during 1934 about  $11\frac{1}{2}$  acres were cleared of buildings, except for a few in good sanitary condition. New houses, built by private persons and of superior design are being rapidly erected. At the end of the year some 400 houses and shacks had been demolished and about thirty new houses built in all.

90. The depression has been responsible for a slowing-up of the Yaba suburb development which made such a good start. Many persons who took up sites have been obliged to surrender them owing to their inability to comply with their building obligations. In spite of the bad times good houses are being erected, but there is a tendency even here to revert to slum conditions if strict control is not maintained.



91. A large proportion of the population rent their dwellings, and nominally the landlord is responsible for repairs. But as long as the rent is paid he exhibits as a general rule a marked indifference in this respect, with the result that the buildings rapidly deteriorate and frequent action by the authorities against dangerous buildings is necessary. Rates are low, being one shilling in the pound for water rate and the same for improvement rate.

92. Rents have fallen considerably in Lagos of late due to the trade depression, but they are still high in relation to the standard of housing. There have been cases where landlords obtained as much per annum by way of rent as the dwelling was worth. Tenements erected for letting are often of the poorest type consistent with the bye-laws, and it is only the constant supervision of Building Inspectors during construction, and thereafter of the Sanitary Inspectors, that makes and keeps them fit for human habitation.

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## CHAPTER VI.

### PRODUCTION.

#### Mining.

93. The improved position of the tin industry has been maintained throughout the year. The International Agreement for Restriction of production and export was renewed as from 1st January, 1934, for a further term of three years. At the commencement of the year the price of the metal varied from £224 to £228 per ton until the middle of April, when it reached £241 which was the peak figure for the year. From then it dropped steadily to £224, and from the beginning of July to the end of the year it remained between £227 to £231.

94. Nigeria's tin quota was increased from 1st January, 1934, to 40% of standard plus a special quota of 4% to enable certain adjustments to be made. The quota was further increased by 10% during the second and third quarters, and was reduced again to the original figure of 40% plus the special quota during the last quarter. Nigeria's total quota for the year was approximately 5,000 tons metal. During the year an agreement was entered into to form a "Buffer Stock" of tin, in order that the market might be more stabilised. Nigeria's share of this stock was 544 tons metal, and the whole of that quota was fulfilled during the latter half of the year.

95. Interest in gold increased considerably during the year, and the output more than doubled that of 1933. The total areas held under Exclusive Prospecting Licences amounted to approximately 430 square miles, and under Mining Leases approximately 55,400 acres,—including, in both cases, areas under application. The average price of gold throughout the year was approximately £6 17s. 6d. per ounce. The output was approximately 37,500 ounces troy.

96. As regards other minerals, approximately 670 tons of Silver-lead, thirteen tons of Columbite and five tons of Wolfram were won during 1934. Interest in Columbite has developed and 138 tons of concentrate were exported, principally for experimental purposes. A few diamonds were discovered in the Northern Provinces during 1934, and the possible existence of an economic deposit is being investigated.

### Geological Survey.

97. During 1934, the activities of the Geological Survey have again been directed mainly to water supply problems in Sokoto, Katsina, Kano and Bornu Provinces in all of which well sinking is now in progress. Preliminary investigations were carried out in Owerri and Aba Divisions and in the Ikot Ekpene and Abak areas. During the year 188 wells have been brought into production.

98. In Sokoto Province, work to the south-west of Sokoto has been completed for the present and the scene of operations transferred to the north-west towards the International Boundary and to the northern part of Argungu Division. Further investigations into the water supply of Sokoto City await a power drill. During the year forty-five new producing wells were completed in this province.

99. In Katsina Emirate work has been continued in the north-west to comply with the requests of various district heads although other parts of the Emirate are also in need of better supplies. The Department has co-operated in this area with the Forestry Department and provided wells for plant nurseries which are being established as part of a scheme of afforestation: thirty-seven shafts have been completed during the year making seventy in all in this area. In Daura Emirate, which with Katsina forms the new province of Katsina, sinking has been continued in the Kaura and Murka Districts with satisfactory results. Pressure rises have been obtained in several places and in all thirty-five shafts have been brought into production.



100. In Kano Province, the programme initiated in 1933 has been continued in Gumel Emirate, particular attention being given to the arid northern districts, and extended to Kano Emirate. In Gumel the work has proved very popular as evidenced by the considerable increase of settlers and cattle. Fifty-four producing wells have now been constructed in that area. In the Babura District of Kano Emirate pressure rises have been obtained in several wells. To date 1,259 feet of shafts have been constructed resulting in ten producing wells. In Bornu Province the approved programme of wells along Balle—Magumeri road has been completed and extended to the area between Magumeri and Maiduguri. Pressure rises have been frequent but in some cases it has been necessary to sink to depths of over 300 feet. Twenty-five wells have been completed during the year in one of which a pressure rise of 113 feet was obtained. To date 632 wells have been brought into production in the Northern Provinces.

101. Preliminary geological investigations for water supply have been carried out in Owerri Province which, while incomplete, indicate that in some areas at least open wells would be a successful method of ameliorating conditions.

A start has been made in developing shallow water supplies by drive tubewells and very successful and popular installations have been completed at Kazaure and at Gusau and are contemplated for other towns and villages. There is no doubt that, where suitable conditions exist, drive tubewells form a cheap and efficient means of increasing and improving water supply in Nigeria.

### Colliery.

102. Mining is carried on at the Udi Coalfield situated at Enugu, 151 miles by rail from Port Harcourt. The mines, which are Government owned and worked by the Railway, are capable of producing 1,400 tons per day. During 1934 the output was:—

March quarter	...	...	57,596 tons.
June quarter	...	...	80,034 ,,
September quarter	...	...	68,318 ,,
December quarter	...	...	53,802 ,,
			<hr/> 259,750 tons. <hr/>

The chief consumers are the Railway, Marine Department, and the Gold Coast Government. Steamers calling at Port Harcourt are supplied, and facilities exist for placing cargo coal direct into vessels alongside the coal conveyor and coal tip.

### Agriculture.

103. In Nigeria proper, as opposed to the small portion of the Cameroons which is administered by the Nigerian Government under mandate, agriculture is entirely a peasant industry. It is quite impossible even to guess at the gross annual production of most of the crops, but for the few which are exported figures can be arrived at, taking rough ratios between annual known export and local consumption.

104. In most countries with a climate like that of southern Nigeria experience has shown that the crops which are more profitable to the farmer are not primary foodstuffs, but rather those products which are exported from the tropics to the temperate regions of the world for manufacture; such as rubber, cocoa, tobacco, coffee, sugar, fruits and spices. Not infrequently, where conditions are favourable, their cultivation is carried to such an extreme that the producers have to rely on food not grown by themselves. Southern Nigeria is thus somewhat exceptional among truly tropical countries, in that the production of food for local consumption still constitutes the most important part of the local agriculture; such local food crops are principally yams, cassava and maize.

105. This feature of the agriculture of southern Nigeria may in part correctly be regarded as a primitive condition which time will modify. It is also in part a result of peasant farming, since the peasant is more inclined than the large landowner to prefer to grow food rather than to buy it, even though the latter might theoretically be the more profitable way. There is also another limiting factor in the production of export crops, when each holding is so very small as it is in Nigeria, in that most of the tropical export products need treatment after harvesting or organised marketing, which are beyond the peasants' powers.

106. In spite of these limitations, however, the farmer of southern Nigeria is exceedingly anxious to increase his output of such export commodities as he can produce; and his ability to compete in the world's markets has already been amply demonstrated. The native farmer favours permanent crops, which, once planted and successfully brought to maturity, will continue to yield a crop annually for many years, though the establishment of such plantations in Nigeria tends to be retarded by the difficulties in connection with the systems of land tenure in the Southern Provinces. That this is not a permanent obstacle to progress, is shown by the history of cocoa planting in Nigeria; for although it has progressed much more slowly than in the Gold Coast, where this difficulty does not arise, its progress in the suitable areas has been very steady.



107. *Palm Oil*.—Palm oil and palm kernels, which constitute the most important exports from southern Nigeria, are both derived from the fruit of the oil palm. This is a tall palm, not unlike the coconut palm. While it may be said to grow wild all over southern Nigeria actually many of the trees have been deliberately, though very irregularly, planted. Except in a few small plantations that have been established in very recent years, no weeding or attention is given to the trees. To climb a tall palm and harvest the fruit is distinctly hard work; but the extracting of the oil and kernels, though it takes a considerable time, involves little hard labour and is largely carried out by women. The quantity of oil exported annually is commonly about 125,000 tons. Palm oil also forms a very important part of the diet of the people of southern Nigeria: and, moreover, with the improvement of means of transport that has taken place in recent years, a trade in palm oil from southern to northern Nigeria has sprung up and increases annually. It is not possible to obtain actual statistics, either of the local consumption or of the internal trade; but it is possible in various indirect ways to form some estimate of their probable combined volume, and such considerations suggest that this probably amounts to at least 100,000 tons per annum, making a gross production of at least 225,000 tons.

108. Of the palm oil exported to Europe and America the major part is used for soap-making. Various technical difficulties have hitherto prevented its use in Europe and America as an edible fat, although its high melting point would otherwise make it particularly valuable for this purpose. All the oil exported from Nigeria is examined by Government Inspectors, and its export is only permitted if it contains less than two per cent of water or dirt.

109. The ordinary "wild" palm tree of Nigeria yields no fruit until it is some thirty feet in height and probably as many years old. But oil palms in a cleared plantation will begin to bear at four years old and reach full bearing at ten years. Thus for many years their fruit can conveniently be harvested from the ground or with a short ladder. Moreover the yield of plantation trees is two or even three times as great as that from wild trees. The Agricultural Department has for some years been demonstrating this fact to the native farmer, who has not been slow to appreciate it.

110. The total areas planted or replanted by native farmers are as follows:—

Year.		Total number of Planters.	Acres Planted or replanted.	Acres per Owner. (Approx.).
1928	...	6	21	3.5
1932	...	218	691	3.2
1933	...	381	1,013	2.7
1934	...	710	1,474	2.1

Practically all these plantations are in the provinces of Benin, Warri, Owerri, Calabar, and Onitsha, which constitute the main palm oil belt of the country. In a few years time each acre of plantation will yield some two tons of fruit, whereas it is only exceptionally good wild palm areas that will yield  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a ton. If, as will often be the case, the plantation fruit is pressed while the wild fruit is treated by the old native method, it will mean that the former yields 800 lb. or more, of oil per acre, while the later yields 135 lb. When improved seed is available for the plantations their superiority will of course be much greater still.

111. The progress made in the introduction of presses for the extraction of palm oil from the fruit since the introduction of the Duchscher press, now advocated, has been marked. The press always yields more oil than the native process of extraction, but its superiority has varied in different trials from ten per cent to 225 per cent. This is due partly to the fact that the relative superiority of the press rises with the richness of the fruit, and partly to the very varying efficiency of the different local native processes with which the press is compared. In the average of twenty-one very carefully conducted strictly comparable tests, the press has yielded 14.6 per cent of oil and the native process 10.6 per cent from the same fruit, which makes the press the more efficient by 40 per cent. The total number of presses in operation at present is about ninety-two, of these fifty-one are of the new Duchscher type.

112. *Palm Kernels*.—After the palm oil has been extracted from the pulp of the fruit, the nuts are allowed to dry for a few weeks and are then cracked to obtain the kernels. This cracking is done almost entirely by women as a “ spare time occupation ”. It is done by placing each nut separately on a stone and hitting it with another stone—a process which, when conducted by an expert, is by no means so slow as might be imagined. The kernels are separated from the broken shells as they are cracked and then only need a little further drying before they are ready for export. Palm kernels are hardly consumed locally at all, so the annual export represents practically the gross annual production. The quantity exported annually varies from year to year with the price paid by exporters. Of recent years the figure has been between 250,000 and 300,000 tons, and it seems clear that apart from the annual variations, and underlying them, there is still a steady tendency to a gradual increase. The Government inspection system prevents the export of kernels containing more than four per cent of shell and dirt, or of kernels that are not adequately dried. On arrival in Europe, palm kernels, on being pressed, yield an oil similar to coconut oil or groundnut oil, which is used either in the manufacture of margarine, or of the refined oil used on the Continent for cooking. The cake which



remains after the oil has been extracted is used for cattle food, for which it is very valuable. Unfortunately, this particular cake is much more popular among continental farmers than English farmers, so that more than half of the Nigerian kernels have gone to the Continent of Europe in recent years.

113. *Cocoa*.—The cocoa tree is not indigenous to West Africa, and as it is a comparatively delicate tree, it can only be grown in “plantations”. Its cultivation is restricted to areas in which there is ample atmospheric humidity and where the soil is both good and deep. The simultaneous occurrence of all these conditions is by no means universal in southern Nigeria, but the greater portion of the four western provinces of Abeokuta, Oyo, Ondo and Ijebu and parts of several others are suitable for cocoa plantations. A cocoa plantation needs thorough weeding and some cultivation during the first four or five years: thereafter it entails remarkably little labour. In Nigeria even the labour of the first few years is reduced by growing food crops between the young trees.

114. Nigerian farmers' methods of growing cocoa are open to criticism, in that plantations are often much too thick, nothing is done to replace what is taken from the soil, and little care is generally devoted to measures to protect the trees from diseases. At present, however, the trees are remarkably free from diseases, except the “Black Pod disease”. This disease does not damage the tree itself and, as most Nigerian cocoa farmers well know, would cause very little loss of crop in Nigeria proper (as distinct from the Cameroons), if the pods were harvested regularly once a month. Unfortunately much the easiest way for a peasant to store cocoa is to leave it on the trees. Hence when the price of cocoa has fallen recently the farmer, hoping for a rise, often delays harvesting until much of his crop has been ruined by the disease. The prevalence of the disease varies greatly from year to year. The yield of cocoa per acre in Nigeria is very high as compared to other parts of the world. The figures given below show the amounts exported by seasons (October 1st to September 30th), which are rather more instructive than the annual trade figures. Cocoa is not consumed internally in Nigeria, so that the figures for export are roughly the same as those of gross annual production.

		Average monthly (Lagos) price per ton. £	Nigeria tons.	Cameroons tons.
1929-30	...	30	51,700	2,800
1930-31	...	18	48,700	2,900
1931-32	...	18	55,000	3,300
1932-33	...	18	68,400	3,500
1933-34	...	15	68,400	3,600

115. The quality of any parcel of cocoa depends upon the particular botanical variety of cocoa of which it consists, on the size of the beans, and on the proportions which it contains of mouldy beans, beans damaged by insects, and unfermented beans. The variety grown throughout Nigeria is Forastero-Amelonado, which is hardy but not of high quality. The size of the beans varies during the year but cannot be controlled by the farmer. In the Government inspection system, bags of small beans, such as occur out of the main harvesting season, in the "mid-crop", must, by law, be marked accordingly with the letters L.C., before export. Almost complete freedom from mould and insect damage is easily obtained during the main harvesting season in Nigeria, if reasonable care is exercised in drying the beans before they are bagged for sale; for at that season the weather facilitates rapid drying. Freedom from unfermented beans, however, depends upon the grower curing his cocoa by a process which calls for some little extra trouble and care.

116. By the Nigerian Government grading system, cocoa of first grade must contain less than five per cent of damaged or incompletely fermented beans; grade II allows only a small proportion of damaged beans, but takes no account of the degree of fermentation; grade III consists, in effect, of any other cocoa of reasonable, saleable, quality. Really bad cocoa may not be exported from Nigeria at all. First grade cocoa fetches fifteen to twenty-five shillings per ton more than second grade, and second grade fetches ten to twenty shillings per ton more than third grade, but as much as £3 5s. per ton premium over third grade has been obtained by the co-operative cocoa sales associations in the current season, for really well fermented cocoa sold in parcels of ten tons or more. As a result of educative and grading work carried out by the Agricultural Department an improvement is occurring in the quality of Nigerian cocoa. The following figures refer to the two last main seasons, September to March inclusive (during which period some 90 per cent of the annual crop is graded), and show how the proportion of the best cocoa is, on the whole, increasing:—

			Grade I	Grade III
1930-31	...	...	8.5%	4.4%
1931-32	...	...	13.0%	1.4%
1932-33	...	...	18.6%	9.7%
1933-34	...	...	13.2%	10.6%

117. *Groundnuts*.—The groundnut (or "peanut" or "monkey-nut") constitutes the great export crop of the extreme north of Nigeria, especially of the heavily populated Province of Kano, and of the northern parts of the Zaria and Sokoto Provinces. It is a valuable and attractive crop on sandy soil; for unlike most



crops it will yield well on such land with little or no manure; another advantage is that it smothers weeds comparatively well and adds, rather than removes, fertility in the soil; lastly, in times of scarcity, it can be used as food instead of being sold for export. On heavy soils the work of harvesting groundnuts is sufficiently arduous to constitute a serious objection to the crop, especially as there is little interval between the ripening of the crop and the time when the soil becomes too hard for efficient harvesting to be possible at all. Another serious difficulty with this crop is that the value per ton in Europe is rather low, while the producing area is about 700 miles from the coast. At times when produce prices are low the cost of sea and railway freight, in spite of special low rates for the latter, leave little for the producer. The figures given below show the amounts exported in recent seasons:—

GROUNDNUTS.		
	Tons exported October 1st—September 30th.	Average buying price at Kano, October 1st—March 31st. Per ton.
1929-30 ...	147,000	£8 18 0
1930-31 ...	154,000	£4 17 0
1931-32 ...	165,000	£6 16 0
1932-33 ...	197,000	£5 14 0
1933-34 ...	234,747	£2 13 0

118. Groundnuts are consumed locally in Nigeria as well as exported and there are no means, direct or indirect, of estimating the local consumption: the volume of the gross annual production is, therefore, unknown. The Agricultural Department, after many abortive trials of varieties imported from other countries, is now endeavouring, with some prospect of success, to produce heavier yielding varieties of groundnuts by selection locally. It seems possible that the average yield per acre may eventually be increased by as much as fifteen per cent.

119. *Cotton*.—Cotton is exported from the north of Nigeria especially the Zaria and Sokoto Provinces, and from the Oyo Province in the south. It is also grown on a smaller scale, for local consumption only, in several other provinces. The conditions in the two main producing areas are so different that it is necessary to discuss them separately. In northern Nigeria cotton is the crop of the heavy soils. The original native cotton of this district was quite unsuitable for export, but it was successfully replaced about the year 1916 by an American variety introduced from Uganda. The annual yield per acre is liable to considerable fluctuation according to the distribution and quantity of rainfall. The farmer also varies the amount of cotton which he plants each year, partly in accordance with the fluctuation of the price paid for cotton, but chiefly according to his previous crop of grain for

food. If the grain crop of the previous season was a poor one, he naturally plants a larger area of grain and less cotton. Thus, although locusts do no damage to cotton, the damage that they did to food crops in 1929 caused a great reduction in the area of cotton planted in 1930, while the heavy food harvest of 1931 led to more cotton being planted again in 1932. The figures given below show the amounts of cotton exported to Europe from the Northern Provinces annually in recent years. In addition to these amounts an unknown quantity is consumed locally in hand spinning and weaving and there is also a considerable export by land northward across the Anglo-French boundary. It is impossible to form any estimate of these amounts though it is clear that they are liable to great fluctuation.

			Bales (400 lb. weight nett).	Price per pound of seed cotton.
1929-30	...	...	34,500	1.2d.-1.6d.
1930-31	...	...	14,000	.5d.-.8d.
1931-32	...	...	5,000	.6d.-.8d.
1932-33	...	...	22,000	.9d.-.8d.
1933-34	...	...	23,000	1.0d.-1.1d.

In the current season (1934-35) more cotton has been planted than ever before, the weather has been more favourable than usual, and the buying price is a little higher than last year. It is anticipated, therefore, that the record export of 1929-30 will be surpassed.

120. Cotton must have been an important crop in the Provinces of Oyo and Ilorin long before there was any export to Europe, for in those provinces there had always been considerable hand-spinning, weaving and dyeing industries. The local demand is, however, limited. For although the hand-woven cloth has maintained its place in the consumers' favour because of its durability, it is dearer than imported cloth. Any increase in production of raw cotton therefore depends upon export to Europe; and from the beginning of the present century considerable effort has been steadily devoted by Government to the fostering of this export trade. The native cotton, which is indigenous to the district, is barely good enough to be acceptable to the European market; so that in years when the price of cotton on the world's market is low, the price that can be paid locally for native cotton is so small that it is not worth growing. For many years repeated efforts were made to find a superior cotton which could be grown with success in spite of the many pests and diseases which are encouraged by the humid climate. These efforts led only to repeated failures until an improved cotton was bred by selection from a native variety, which was not only superior in commercial quality, but also in its resistance to diseases. The



figures given below show the amounts exported in recent years. The amount consumed locally varies greatly from year to year according to the price offered for export and it is impossible to estimate the gross annual production.

#### COTTON EXPORTED FROM SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

Season.	Total native cotton-bales.	Price per pound seed cotton.	Improved Ishan cotton-bales.	Price per pound seed cotton.
1927-28 ..	4,500	1½d.-2d.	68	2½d.-3d.
1928-29 ...	6,500	1¾d.-1½d.	900	2½d.-2¼d.
1929-30 ...	3,500	1½d.-½d.	6,000	1⅝d.-⅞d.
1930-31 ...	300	⅝d.-⅜d.	4,000	¾d.-⅝d.
1931-32 ...	—	—	1,300	¾d.-⅝d.
1932-33 ...	—	—	800	¾d.-⅝d.
1933-34 ...	118	½d.	2,884	1⅞d.

There are indications that this crop has reached the bottom of the trough, and that some revival of cotton growing will soon be seen, even if the price remains steady.

121. *The Kola Crop* is one of considerable local importance in West Africa. The nuts are borne on a tree, roughly comparable to a cocoa tree, and are chewed all over West Africa as a luxury. A few years ago the nuts consumed in Nigeria were all imported from the Gold Coast and Sierra Leone. Kola planting was, however, advocated and stimulated by the Agricultural Department in the south-western part of Nigeria some years ago, and now, so far as can be ascertained, the local production supplies more than half the Nigerian demand. Recently kola planting has extended to the central and eastern provinces of southern Nigeria and although the area planted there is as yet small, there is every reason to believe that it will eventually become very considerable, for this is one of the few crops that seems to thrive even on the very poor soil that covers the major part of those provinces. The Railway run a special express goods train from Lagos to Kano each week for this traffic alone.

122. *Minor Export Crops.*—There is a small and slowly growing export of sesame seed (“benniseed”) chiefly in the Benue Province. The quality of this crop in Nigeria used to be seriously vitiated by heavy adulteration with inferior species. Pure seed has been given by the exporting firms in exchange for adulterated seed—the firms bearing the difference in the value—to secure the practical elimination of the inferior species. The production of this crop was greatly handicapped by the exceedingly laborious nature of the Native method of handling the crop when preparing it for thrashing. Care is necessary owing to the peculiar readiness with which the seed is shed; but the Agricultural Department

was able to demonstrate that benniseed could be dried in stooks of sheaves just as cereals are in Europe, without loss of seed. The process has been extensively adopted in recent years by native growers, as has also the more intensive rotation of crops demonstrated by the department. The adoption of these two practices recently has led to a rapid increase in the export of benniseed and consequently of the prosperity of the Benue Province.

123. A new industry was also started in 1928-29 by the Agricultural Department in the export of ginger. The measures include distributing good "seed-ginger", demonstrating the correct (and rather difficult) method of preparation, and grading the produce offered for sale. As a result the quality of Nigerian ginger compares well with standard Jamaican ginger; and there is a steady improvement. The quantities exported so far have been as follows:—

1930-31	...	...	16 tons
1931-32	...	...	40 ,,
1932-33	...	...	53 ,,
1933-34	...	...	86 ,,

There is every prospect of continued increase. At present the cultivation is chiefly confined to the Zaria Province.

124. Experiments are being conducted to test the possibility of exporting raw pineapples to England, and so far there appears to be ground for hope of eventual success. There is also a possibility that grape-fruit may be exported in a few years' time. Samples of Nigerian grape-fruit have been well reported upon, and steps are now being taken to ascertain by experiments which variety of stock and scion is best in the local conditions.

125. The harvests of *food crops* in southern Nigeria are remarkably constant. Farmers naturally note that the crops in some years are better than in others; but the extent of the fluctuations is quite insignificant as compared to those which occur in most parts of the world. The prices of foodstuffs fluctuate a good deal, and may be doubled or halved within three years. But these fluctuations are caused by the varying prices of export products, and hence the amount of money in circulation, and not by any actual scarcity or plenty of foodstuffs. In northern Nigeria an abnormally poor rainfall causes a poor harvest perhaps once in seven or eight years; and, still more occasionally, the occurrence of two such seasons in succession leads to a real shortage of food or a partial famine. Food is extremely cheap at present.

126. The Agricultural Department is working to increase both the area of crop grown and the yield per acre in the Northern Provinces of all crops, including foodstuffs, cotton and ground-nuts, through the introduction of ploughing with cattle and the



making of farm-yard manure. A family with a pair of cattle and a plough can cultivate four or five times the area of crop that they can cultivate by hand. At the same time, owing to the fact that a very little manure greatly increases the yield of crops in that part of the country, the man who uses farm-yard manure gets very much heavier yields per acre than the man who digs his soil by hand and, keeping no cattle, has no manure. The new mixed farmer usually increases his three acre farm to about six acres in his second year, then to about nine, and twelve in the next two years respectively, so that it takes him three or four years to increase his farm to his new maximum, and still longer to acquire or rear all the stock his farm can carry. But eventually his returns are very many times greater than those of the ordinary farmer—the stock alone, which he can feed almost entirely on the bye-products of his farm, give more than the gross annual return from the hand-worked farm. Extension work was started in 1928, with three farmers near the Agricultural Station at Samaru, Zaria; and the figures given below show the progress of the movement in recent years. Practically all these farmers have been enabled to start mixed farming by receiving advances of about £5 per head from their Native Administration to cover cost of bullocks and implements. The bullocks are all bought and trained, and the farmers trained by the Agricultural Department. The advances are repayable with interest over a short period of years:—

Year.				Total number of farmers at end of year.
1931	...	...	...	44
1932	...	...	...	112
1933	...	...	...	173
1934	...	...	...	286

127. Recently, northern Nigeria has been subject to a plague of locusts. In 1930, the damage done by locusts was considerable, in spite of an active campaign of destruction of the locust hoppers, conducted chiefly by driving the swarms into trenches or pits. In 1931, the campaign was conducted largely by poisoning the bands of hoppers with bait treated with arsenic. Over thirty tons of arsenic were used, and about 1,200 tons of bait (calculated as dry bait) were made at over eighty centres. An Agricultural Officer was posted to each province to organise these factories and the spreading of the bait; but most of the field work was supervised by the local Administrative officers. Altogether it is believed that over 150,000 acres of hoppers were destroyed. Similar campaigns, on a rather smaller scale, was carried out in 1932, 1933 and 1934. Little damage has been done to crops in these recent years, and as the seasons have been otherwise favourable for grain crops, food is now extremely cheap. The

number of locusts has on the whole become less each year, and there seems reason to hope that the end of the infestation may be approaching.

### Forestry.

128. The outlook for Nigerian timbers continued to improve, where the quality was of a sufficiently high standard. *Mansonia altissima* continued to find favour on the home market. The indiscriminate export of poor grade logs of *Triplochiton scleroxylon* has depressed the price and brought this African Whitewood into disrepute. Investigation into the properties of other species continues at Princes Risborough by the Forest Products Research Laboratory and *Diospyros* species have had favourable reports. In general there has been a marked interest taken in the value and usefulness of many of the less well known timbers. The fashion for "streaky" timbers has opened up possibilities.

129. The sawn timber trade continues to expand and one large privately owned mill is in process of erection at Sapele. Local tests on impregnation and seasoning of timber were carried on. This work has now been transferred to the Public Works Department. The specialised tests of seven other species to determine their suitability for sleeper manufacture have also been commenced.

130. Marked progress has been made with the enumeration surveys and very valuable information on the distribution of stocks of standing timber in the forests will be the result of this work which must continue for some time to come.

131. Further Forest Reservation during the year made slow progress which seems to be all that can be expected at present. Detailed surveys of part of the area in northern Katsina to be used for the anti-desiccation scheme on the International Boundary were completed.

132. Gum arabic development received a check in Bornu Province largely due to changes in the Administrative staff of the province and no Forest Officer being available. Progress in the development of Taungya plantations has been marked on the experimental areas both in the Northern and Southern Provinces.

133. Major Oliphant, F.P.R.L., completed his second visit to Nigeria and published his report, the main recommendations being towards the reorganisation of timber concessions, timber grading and export, to meet the changed conditions of exploitation and marketing which have developed since the system of licences was instituted. The reorganisation is in progress and should do much to bring nearer the more economic and scientific working of the forests.



### Livestock.

134. It is not possible to estimate accurately the livestock population of Nigeria as the only available figures are those based on the amount of Jangali tax collected, which figures, owing to tax evasion, do not by any means represent the total livestock population. However these figures for 1934 showed that there were in the Northern Provinces 2,565,551 cattle, 1,490,069 sheep, 4,398,517 goats, 185,860 horses, 493,060 donkeys, 14 mules, 1,972 camels, 43,947 swine and 38 ostriches.

135. Owing to the prevailing low prices for slaughter animals a greater number of cattle, sheep, and goats have been slaughtered than formerly not only in the North but also in the Southern Provinces to which some 200,000 cattle went by road and rail from the North. The number of sheep and goats exported to the South from the North are not available. In the markets of the North it is estimated that 262,602 cattle were slaughtered in addition to 315,264 sheep and 958,192 goats.

136. Large numbers of cattle, sheep, and goats enter Nigeria overland for slaughter purposes but it is not yet possible to give any accurate figures of this trade. Until this year the importation of cattle has been almost entirely uncontrolled but orders have now been made under the Native Authority Ordinance which make it compulsory for all trade cattle to pass through Veterinary inspection stations which are situated along the border. At these stations the cattle are inspected and given prophylactic treatment against rinderpest and when indicated also against pleuro pneumonia. By these measures the danger of the introduction and spread of disease by trade cattle is considerably reduced and the campaign for the elimination of these diseases from the herds of Nigeria greatly assisted.

137. *Disease Control.*—The general situation as regards the serious cattle diseases has been most satisfactory and only localised outbreaks of rinderpest have been recorded, with comparatively small losses. This state of affairs is due to the very large numbers of cattle that have been rendered immune by artificial means. In 1934 alone, 427,446 cattle received immunisation against rinderpest including 88,362 trade cattle which received temporary immunisation at the various border inspection stations, 450,768 were vaccinated against blackquarter, 54,279 against pleuro pneumonia and 6,628 received curative treatment for trypanosomiasis. No charge is now being made for any of these inoculations.

138. As a direct result of this scheme of immunisation and the feeling of security which it has given the cattle owners, there is evidence, more especially in the Plateau Province, of selective breeding being practised with a resultant general improvement

in the type of cattle. In past years with the herds constantly menaced by serious epizootics cattle owners could not afford to cull the inferior animals from their herds more especially if these animals happened to be the survivors of a recent outbreak of disease and consequently immune. In this respect there is now a big demand on the part of cattle owners to have their inferior breeding bulls castrated and large numbers of castrations were performed during the past year by the officers of the Veterinary Department.

139. *Hides and Skins*.—The export trade in both hides and skins especially goats skins is considerable and an economic asset of great importance to the native stock owners. The figures for 1934 are not yet available but in 1933 hides and skins to the value of £624,677 were exported. The scheme for the improved flaying and drying of hides and skins has made steady progress and is now established in all the main stock raising provinces in the North, while a beginning has also been made at a few of the larger markets in the Southern Provinces. The natives themselves now realise that it is to their own pecuniary advantage to own a skin or hide that has been properly prepared, and much less trouble is now being experienced in getting butchers to follow the improved methods of preparation.

140. *Clarified Butter Fat (Ghee)*.—There has been a very considerable increase in this trade during the year and the output from the Vom Depot alone has grown from 10,000 lb. in 1932, when it was first established, to 85,750 lb. in 1934. An export order for twenty-five tons received this year has been repeated for 1935 and there are indications that in the near future this order will be very considerably increased. The local market has also grown in volume and extent and orders are being received from all over the Southern Provinces where this palatable and easily digested animal fat affords a welcome change in the dietary of the African from the customary vegetable oils.

141. An additional depot for the purchase of butter and its manufacture into ghee has during the year been established at Kano. From the experience gained in the working of these two depots there is no doubt that if this trade were properly and fully developed very large quantities of ghee—even up to 1,000 tons a year—could be produced. It is hoped that some commercial firm will become interested in the development of this trade on proper lines. Such a trade would be of benefit not only to the firms concerned themselves, but also to cattle owners situated in areas where at present no markets for surplus milk and butter exist.

142. *Animal Clinics*.—The clinics established at Kano, Katsina, Zaria, Bauchi, Azare, Gombe and Sokoto continue to do good work more particularly amongst pack animals suffering



from lameness and saddle wounds. These clinics are financed and staffed by the various Native Administrations under the professional supervision of officers of the Veterinary Department. Additional clinics are now being opened.

143. *Veterinary School*.—This year saw the establishment of a Veterinary School in Kano for the training of native staff employed at the Veterinary inspection stations, immunisation camps and by the various Native Administrations. The course of instruction is at present confined to practical work in connection with the common cattle diseases of the country and in the administration of preventive immunisation, but in the future it is hoped to make the course more comprehensive and give selected pupils a more scientific training.

The first session of the school commenced on 1st October with an attendance roll of twenty-eight pupils all of whom are showing remarkable keenness and intelligence in their studies. The progress the students have made in so short a time is most encouraging and they promise to become valuable additions to the Veterinary staff of the country.

### Fisheries.

144. Though there is no export trade in fish there is a considerable internal trade in dried fish which is caught by natives of the coastal areas and of the Niger and Cross Rivers and is carried for sale into the markets of the interior villages at great distances from the origin. In the larger riverside stations there is also trade in fresh fish sold for European and African consumption.

## CHAPTER VII.

### COMMERCE.

145. Trade has been bad during the year but with a slight upward tendency during the last two months. Produce prices have remained at very low levels and have given little encouragement to producers. In spite of this the quantities of produce exported have been so much in excess of the 1933 exports that the total value has risen by £124,109 and has helped to foster a spirit of optimism for the future.

146. Total value of the external trade of Nigeria (excluding specie) during the year was as follows:—

			£
Import	...	...	5,263,766
Export	...	...	8,851,199
			<hr/>
Total	...		£14,114,965
			<hr/>

a decrease of £952,017 on the trade of the previous year. The value of imports shows a decrease of £1,076,126 and that of exports an increase of £124,109. The value of the transit trade (*i.e.*, goods passing through the inland waters and by rail through Nigeria to and from French Territory) was £171,663 compared with £160,191 an increase of £11,472 on the previous year.

147. The value of specie imported in 1934 was £71,374 a decrease of £234,002 on the previous year; £1,204,482 was the value of specie exported this year as against £340,053 the previous year an increase of £864,429.

148. Commercial imports (*i.e.*, excluding specie and Government imports) were valued at £4,954,576 a decrease of over eighteen per cent compared with the previous year, while commercial exports at £8,836,061 show an increase of over one per cent compared with the previous year.

149. The United Kingdom (excluding specie) accounted for 50.34 per cent of the total trade compared with 51.26 per cent in the previous year showing a decrease of .92 per cent (imports at 58.01 per cent showing a decrease of 10.46 per cent; and exports at 45.78 per cent showing an increase of 6.84 per cent); the United States of America with 8.36 per cent of the trade an increase of .64 per cent and Germany with 9.35 per cent a decrease of 4.53 per cent. With the exception of the Colonies in British West Africa there is no appreciable trade with any other part of the British Empire.

150. The import trade with the various countries was mainly as follows:—

Cigarettes, Hundreds.		1933.	1934.	Increase+ Decrease—
United Kingdom ...	...	2,499,182	2,227,393	— 271,789
Holland ...	...	3,678	28	— 3,650
Germany ...	...	4,202	1,416	— 2,786
Other Countries ...	...	12,325	40,080	+ 27,755
Total ...	...	<u>2,519,387</u>	<u>2,268,917</u>	<u>— 250,470</u>
Leaf Tobacco, Lbs.				
United Kingdom ...	...	800,600	63,411	— 737,189
U. S. America ...	...	1,561,690	2,150,643	+ 588,953
Other Countries ...	...	13,314	5,395	— 7,919
Total ...	...	<u>2,375,604</u>	<u>2,219,449</u>	<u>— 156,155</u>
Gin, Imperial Gallons.				
United Kingdom ...	...	22,530	17,620	— 4,910
Holland ...	...	54,289	41,267	— 13,022
Germany ...	...	4,530	459	— 4,071
Other Countries ...	...	246	5	— 241
Total ...	...	<u>81,595</u>	<u>59,351</u>	<u>— 22,244</u>



Salt (Other than table), Cwts.				Increase + Decrease -
		1933.	1934.	
United Kingdom ...	...	821,427	821,483	+ 56
Germany ...	...	36,646	23,033	- 13,613
Other Countries ...	...	9,063	72,052	+ 62,989
Total ...	...	<u>867,136</u>	<u>916,568</u>	+ 49,432
Motor Spirits, Imperial Gallons.				
United Kingdom ...	...	33,959	1,781	- 32,178
U. S. America ...	...	2,329,266	2,105,467	- 223,799
Germany ...	...	37,438	7,451	- 29,987
Other Countries ...	...	202,105	2,363,762	+ 2,161,657
Total ...	...	<u>2,602,768</u>	<u>4,478,461</u>	+ 1,875,693
(Not including Velvet)				
Cotton Piece Goods, Value.				
		£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	...	1,509,002	787,465	- 721,537
Italy ...	...	25,370	10,311	- 15,059
Germany ...	...	94,157	15,105	+ 79,052
Holland ...	...	53,176	25,958	- 27,218
France ...	...	12,162	1,458	- 10,704
Russia ...	...	...	83,599	+ 83,599
Japan ...	...	258,629	292,333	+ 33,704
Other Countries ...	...	118,835	78,344	- 40,491
Total ...	...	<u>2,071,331</u>	<u>1,294,573</u>	- 776,758
Kola Nuts, Value.				
		£	£	£
Gold Coast ...	...	3,011	179	- 2,832
Sierra Leone ...	...	37,238	2,263	- 34,975
Other Countries ...	...	586	164	- 422
Total ...	...	<u>40,835</u>	<u>2,606</u>	- 38,229
Kerosene (Oil illuminating), I. Galls.				
U. S. America ...	...	1,490,554	1,098,515	- 392,039
United Kingdom ...	...	59,173	2,407	- 56,766
Other Countries ...	...	411,054	1,379,410	+ 968,356
Total ...	...	<u>1,960,781</u>	<u>2,480,332</u>	+ 519,551

151. Tobacco imports showed a decrease of 156,155 lb. as against 1,496,161 lb. decrease last year. The cotton trade also showed a decrease of £776,758 and decrease is noticeable all round except Russia and Japan imports; India contributed no less than £68,493 out of the £78,344 imports under figures of "Other Countries". Motor spirits showed an increase of 1,875,693 gallons from the imports of 2,363,762 gallons under the figures of "Other Countries", 2,294,728 gallons were imported from Dutch West Indies. Kerosine also showed an increase of 519,551 gallons, and from the imports of 1,379,410 gallons under the figures "Other Countries" 1,293,896 gallons were imports from Dutch West Indies.

152. Nigeria's list of exports is a very limited one and no difficulty should be experienced in placing before the various countries of the Empire such of the commodities as would be likely

to find a market. The export taken by Poland in palm kernels was 8,131 tons this year, a slight increase on last year. Sweden's imports of palm kernels was 4,150 tons. Export of ground-nuts to Denmark has increased this year to 8,532 tons from 724 tons and Belgium has an import of 4,021 tons during the year.

153. The following comparative statement shows the general position with regard to trade for each of the last six years:—

Commercial and Government.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Imports (exclusive of Specie)	13,219,165	12,616,941	6,510,515	7,194,732	6,339,892	5,263,766
Exports (exclusive of Specie)	17,756,945	15,028,624	8,771,713	9,476,762	8,727,090	8,851,199
Total ...	30,976,110	27,645,565	15,282,228	16,671,494	15,066,982	14,114,965
Imports of Specie ..	185,282	83,096	233,684	48,411	305,376	71,374
Exports of Specie ...	165,556	145,691	1,872,806	152,182	340,053	1,204,482
Total ...	350,838	228,787	2,106,490	200,593	645,429	1,275,856
Grand Total ...	31,326,948	27,874,352	17,388,718	16,872,087	15,712,411	15,390,821

1933 Final figures. 1934. Parcels by parcel post not included. Subject to adjustment.



154. The bulk of the export trade is also limited to a few main articles; returns showing the principal exports for the past four years are appended:—

## PALM OIL.

Countries of destination.	1931.		1932.		1933.		1934.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
United Kingdom	30,230	419,916	46,365	605,006	63,820	697,180	72,195	558,890
Germany	14,075	198,242	8,426	109,934	9,686	122,509	4,125	40,908
U. S. America	43,898	555,716	25,058	326,930	23,592	243,097	6,334	51,287
Holland	7,388	91,588	7,187	93,767	5,130	55,153	2,502	23,328
France	1,297	17,330	3,827	49,929	452	5,454	1,500	9,834
Italy	20,727	251,816	24,879	324,596	21,080	214,073	20,486	160,726
Other Countries	564	7,073	318	4,148	4,936	46,965	5,631	40,627
Total	118,179	1,541,681	116,060	1,514,310	128,696	1,384,431	112,773	885,600

## PALM KERNELS.

United Kingdom	96,044	786,940	133,687	1,161,062	102,316	759,554	139,592	758,260
Germany	126,015	1,059,450	115,242	1,001,461	104,585	749,040	77,900	434,003
U. S. America	15,082	135,184	8,183	73,781	6,338	48,170	2,541	15,744
Holland	12,573	106,278	34,592	303,000	30,017	220,444	45,315	254,575
France	939	7,959	2,346	21,048	451	3,496	...	...
Italy	1,270	13,504	631	5,638	1,027	6,662	...	...
Denmark	1,367	12,231	6,615	60,585	8,486	62,500	10,623	56,182
Other Countries	1,164	10,799	7,765	69,389	6,725	48,656	13,471	71,883
Total	254,454	2,132,345	309,061	2,695,964	259,945	1,898,522	289,442	1,590,647

## COTTON LINT.

Countries of destination.	1931.		1932.		1933.		1934.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£
United Kingdom ...	58,971	127,116	21,941	47,408	83,747	183,739	101,103	257,734
Germany ...	8,335	18,933	1,658	3,581	4,139	8,877	...	...
France ...	951	2,069	219	474	...	...	...	...
Other Countries ...	2,044	4,694	...	...	178	373	15,941	39,607
Total ...	70,301	152,812	23,818	51,463	88,064	192,989	117,044	297,341

## TIN ORE.

Countries of destination.	1931.		1932.		1933.		1934.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
United Kingdom ...	10,794	906,185	5,967	579,504	5,216	658,598	7,528	1,243,722



## GROUNDNUTS.

Countries of destination.	1931.		1932.		1933.		1934.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
United Kingdom	17,757	158,845	19,732	196,541	23,517	244,565	32,589	254,611
Germany	51,170	460,908	17,362	172,934	28,288	279,804	24,664	184,710
Holland	10,459	106,732	5,753	57,298	15,512	142,977	16,167	129,215
U. S. America	751	7,847	...	...	...	...	...	...
France	73,081	710,751	132,307	1,317,875	115,065	1,170,497	125,916	935,926
Italy	4,241	35,920	7,449	74,197	15,503	161,978	24,014	184,171
Other Countries	2,280	29,688	5,520	54,986	6,721	64,548	21,536	171,634
Total	159,739	1,510,691	188,123	1,873,831	204,606	2,064,369	244,886	1,860,267

## Cocoa.

United Kingdom	11,952	251,768	14,664	301,742	17,819	353,337	17,055	288,879
Germany	14,170	291,126	17,267	355,239	13,836	257,018	13,926	234,594
U. S. America	6,574	123,689	16,888	347,440	12,080	216,595	26,645	431,997
Holland	19,178	409,376	21,047	432,988	16,109	301,884	18,556	308,653
France	93	1,817	61	1,244	...	...	...	...
Other Countries	839	15,478	1,108	22,798	893	14,793	1,799	26,314
Total	52,806	1,093,254	71,035	1,461,451	60,737	1,143,627	77,981	1,290,437

155. With reference to the above figures it will be observed that the quantities of exports of palm oil were less and quantities of cotton lint and groundnuts during this year were more than in any of the two previous years. An increase in tonnage is noticeable in cocoa, palm kernels and tin ore. The tonnage of groundnuts exported is a record figure; the highest being 204,606 last year.

156. Local produce prices per ton are shown in the following table. There has been a serious decline all round, excepting cocoa.

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES OF STAPLE PRODUCTS (LAGOS &amp; KANO).

	Average for the year 1934.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
LAGOS.													
Palm Kernels per ton	3 12 10	4 3 8	4 4 3	3 11 3	3 3 4	3 7 9	2 17 6	2 19 4	3 7 5	3 15 11	3 19 2	3 14 4	4 9 8
Palm Oil (Semi) per ton	3 2 9	3 0 6	3 0 4	2 10 6	2 7 10	2 10 8	1 17 6	1 15 0	2 8 6	3 15 7	4 8 7	4 12 6	5 5 0
Palm Oil (Soft) per ton	4 19 1	5 15 8	6 6 0	4 16 9	4 5 0	4 6 3	3 2 6	2 17 6	3 16 11	5 13 0	6 2 10	6 7 6	5 18 9
Cocoa (Grade I) per ton	14 19 11	13 4 10	17 4 1	17 12 11	...	...	...	...	...	13 15 0	13 4 1	14 5 7	15 13 0
Cocoa (Grade II) per ton	14 3 9	12 9 10	16 9 1	16 17 11	...	...	...	...	...	13 0 0	12 9 1	13 6 11	14 13 8
Cocoa (Grade III) per ton	13 1 2	11 14 10	15 14 1	16 2 11	...	...	...	...	...	11 0 0	10 9 1	12 4 0	14 3 3
KANO.													
Groundnuts per ton	2 10 0	2 9 8	2 6 5	2 0 0	1 10 7	2 7 1	2 2 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	4 11 2	4 3 3	2 10 0



157. In the hides and skins trade the exports under each heading show increase though the prices were lower than the previous year. The following are detailed figures for the past four years :—

CATTLE HIDES—TANNED AND UNTANNED									
Countries of destination.	1931.		1932.		1933.		1934.		Value.
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
	lb.	£	lb.	£	lb.	£	lb.	£	
United Kingdom	1,758,613	52,638	2,020,334	58,926	2,886,609	58,976	2,027,143	45,325	
Germany	174,967	6,072	112,236	3,274	311,620	7,180	171,327	4,204	
Holland	36,562	914	...	...	13,904	348	33,297	870	
U. S. America	...	...	...	...	19,002	950	...	...	
France	4,352,166	122,498	2,947,266	86,150	2,543,239	60,961	2,832,203	71,635	
Other Countries	675,877	22,949	938,570	27,776	1,852,080	45,464	2,672,042	66,975	
Total	6,998,185	205,071	6,018,406	176,126	7,626,454	173,879	7,736,012	189,009	
SHEEPSKINS—TANNED AND UNTANNED.									
United Kingdom	361,677	24,275	174,819	14,103	171,699	7,613	370,272	22,828	
Germany	33,690	1,872	20,065	1,505	...	...	211	10	
Holland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
U. S. America	311,506	18,732	718,805	53,910	1,236,386	67,963	1,313,787	83,730	
France	78,059	5,849	1,045	157	2,203	146	4,413	276	
Other Countries	10,220	863	45,167	6,406	20,222	1,901	19,291	2,036	
Total	795,152	51,591	959,901	76,081	1,430,510	77,623	1,707,974	108,880	
GOATSKINS—TANNED AND UNTANNED.									
United Kingdom	2,541,983	268,603	1,262,763	118,424	1,420,442	87,416	1,463,771	114,041	
Germany	31,365	3,063	47,901	4,198	246,558	12,006	140,989	7,049	
Holland	14,683	2,202	27,472	2,527	41,640	2,100	9,142	565	
U. S. America	1,214,116	126,042	1,966,113	215,686	1,931,412	168,136	2,464,281	249,150	
France	605,342	65,706	195,288	19,177	577,006	54,711	254,749	21,168	
Other Countries	37,631	3,387	105,810	13,404	152,614	14,145	208,965	25,629	
Total	4,445,120	469,003	3,605,347	373,416	4,369,672	338,514	4,541,897	417,602	

158. *Shipping*.—Regular mail, passenger and cargo services were maintained throughout the year between the United Kingdom and Nigerian ports, and also between Continental and American ports and Nigeria. Messrs. Elder Dempster Lines, Limited, run the main mail and passenger services, but many other firms run regular services amongst them being the American Barber West Africa Line, John Holt & Company (Liverpool), Limited, United Africa Company, Limited, Holland West Africa Line, Woermann Linie, Fraissinet Fabre Line, Roma Societe di Navigazione Libera Triestina. Messrs. Elder Dempster reduced their thrice monthly mailboats sailings to once a fortnight, the vessels now proceed alternatively to Port Harcourt and Calabar. The period of the journey from Lagos to England has been increased from fourteen to fifteen days. The number of vessels which entered and cleared at the various ports has increased this year.

Year.	ENTERED.				Total.	
	British.		Foreign.			
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1930   ...   ...	512	1,014,188	516	932,800	1,028	1,946,988
1931   ...   ...	407	783,708	452	868,364	859	1,652,072
1932   ...   ...	365	721,859	376	694,925	741	1,416,784
1933   ...   ...	368	722,168	411	747,135	779	1,469,303
1934   ...   ...	402	827,444	531	951,654	933	1,779,098

Year.	CLEARED.				Total.	
	British.		Foreign.			
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1930 ... ..	504	1,006,703	526	930,470	1,020	1,937,173
1931 ... ..	413	791,352	448	863,028	861	1,654,380
1932 ... ..	372	733,077	380	708,614	752	1,441,691
1933 ... ..	362	721,481	417	759,643	779	1,481,124
1934 ... ..	403	831,221	542	960,422	945	1,791,643



159. The total number and tonnage of ships entering and clearing show increases. The tonnage of cargo inwards and outwards show increase.

Year.	TONNAGE OF CARGO.					
	INWARDS.			OUTWARDS.		
	British.	Foreign.	Total.	British.	Foreign.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1930 ... ..	365,122	125,553	490,675	479,931	261,639	741,570
1931 ... ..	251,754	74,233	325,987	402,177	275,390	677,567
1932 ... ..	251,066	68,212	319,278	478,754	324,847	803,601
1933 ... ..	232,838	65,212	298,050	458,405	329,222	787,627
1934 ... ..	277,636	87,633	365,269	534,175	441,650	975,825

## CHAPTER VIII.

### WAGES AND THE COST OF LIVING.

160. The vast bulk of the population do not work for wages, being cultivators farming their own ground, traders or craftsmen working for themselves and their own profit. Even the craftsmen, except in the larger cities, have their own farms which provide them with their main foodstuffs, the sums which they earn from their occupations being largely devoted to the purchase of utensils, clothes, a few additional foodstuffs which they cannot as a rule grow themselves, and to the payment of their taxes.

161. For these reasons it is difficult to make any exact calculations as to the cost of living of a husbandman, tradesman or craftsman. The cost of foodstuffs is noticeably less in the North than in the South and in the western Southern Provinces than in the eastern. The general trade depression has resulted in a fall of wages but this fall has been set off to a large extent by a decrease in the prices of native foodstuffs. There has been some decrease in the cost of imported articles of food and of manufactured goods although this has been offset somewhat by increased customs duties. The staple articles of food for paid labourers and other wage-earning classes are, in the south, yams, cassava, maize, beans, palm oil and greens with pepper, dried fish and occasional small quantities of meat. In the north the chief articles are millets, guinea-corn, cassava, beans, groundnut oil, and pepper; the quantity of meat consumed is greater while that of fish is less.

162. It is impossible to give any useful figure for the cost of foodstuffs, as food is not sold by weight, but by arbitrary measures or by number. Food production and sale is not properly organised; farmers and fishermen do little more than send their surplus from their home requirements into market, with the inevitable result that supplies and prices vary somewhat from day to day and from market to market. Butchers are required by law to use scales, but in practice their customers know nothing of weight and prefer to buy meat by the piece.

163. The Southern Provinces being more dependent as a whole on the export trade of Nigeria have been more severely hit by the fall in wholesale prices than the Northern Provinces but full effects of the financial depression have penetrated to the inland and isolated districts. The labouring classes have suffered more from scarcity of employment than from the reduction of wages. There has however in recent months been a general rise in the local prices of all forms of export produce which should alleviate matters, although the full effect will only become apparent after some time has elapsed. Both European firms and native employers have been forced to cut down their staffs to meet the prevailing slackness in trade and a great many labourers have been thrown out of work. It is fortunate that the comparatively low cost of living in Nigeria prevents any possibility of the unemployment problem becoming acute.

### Unskilled Labour.

164. *Wages*.—Unskilled labour may be divided roughly into three classes:—

- (a) Agricultural labour employed by local farmers in the villages.
- (b) Casual labour hired by the day for portage, etc.
- (c) Regular labour paid at daily or monthly rates for work on roads, plantations, trading beaches, etc.

165. Class (a) is distinguished by the fact that the wage is usually paid partly in kind, food for the midday meal being supplied by the employer. In the Onitsha Province the wage of the agricultural labourer has fallen as low as 1d.-2d. a day, food being provided. In other districts the average would be slightly higher. This class does not, of course, consist of professional labourers except in so far as the people of Nigeria are by nature professional farmers. All such labourers may be assumed to have homes and farms of their own and to offer themselves for employment in their neighbours' farms only in their spare time. The same applies to labourers employed locally for building and thatching houses and for harvesting palm produce. The general level of wages for labour of this class has shown little change during the year.



166. Class (b) is to be found both in the towns and the outlying villages and the average wage has continued to fall. The prevailing rates are as low as threepence to fourpence a day for ordinary casual labour, while carriers can be engaged at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. a mile. In order to distribute money over as large an area as possible some of the small Native Administrations in the Eastern Provinces employ labourers in fortnightly or monthly shifts after which the personnel of the gangs is entirely changed.

167. The daily wages paid to class (c) vary from 4d. in the Ogoja Province to 9d. in the more highly civilised parts of the Southern Provinces, and are thus slightly lower than in 1933.

In the Northern Provinces wages paid to unskilled labour vary as a rule from fourpence to eightpence a day. In places labour is readily obtainable at threepence a day or even less.

Mines labour in the gold fields is usually paid at 1s. 6d. per dwt. of gold won.

168. *Cost of Living.*—The cost of living for these classes depends on the situation of each individual. A labourer who is in a position to grow his own foodstuffs can live very cheaply and it is calculated that the average man can live quite comfortably on  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 3d. per day. Married men have little if any increased expenditure since the average woman in the Southern Provinces is self-supporting.

169. In Lagos wages have fallen considerably during the past three years. Until lately the standard labourer's wage has been a shilling per day, but retrenchment and lack of employment has made labour at eightpence per day available, if the employer provides free housing, and ninepence if the labourer has to house himself. Casual labourers if unmarried or apart from their wives usually live in communities, four or more of them sharing a living room at a cost to each of from a shilling to two shillings per month. A large number of men sharing a dilapidated house and its yard will pay the rent by contributing each as little as sixpence a month. There is no such thing as lodgings in the English sense of the word. The landlord lets an empty tenement at from two to ten shillings per month and the number of his tenants does not concern him. They provide what little furniture they require and their own food, which they either cook themselves or buy already prepared from street vendors. Married labourers often live in single rooms at an average monthly rental of from two to four shillings. In the majority of cases the wives of wage-earners and of those on low salaries are petty traders and their profits are sufficient to pay for their own food and that of their children.

170. The effect of the trade depression is more acutely felt in a large town such as Lagos where there is a considerable wage-earning population than in the agricultural areas of the hinterland where the people are for the most part peasant proprietors. In Lagos there is now a large body of unemployed of the clerk, artisan and labourer classes, and at first sight it is difficult to understand how they exist, there being no system of organised poor relief. Their subsistence depends entirely on the goodwill of their relations and friends who are in good employment. The price of local foodstuffs is now so low that it is said that a man can subsist on three half-pence a day, and that, if there is hardship, there is no absolute destitution.

### Salaried Classes.

171. Skilled artisans receive wages varying from a shilling and threepence to four shillings a day in the Southern Provinces and from two shillings to three shillings and sixpence in the Northern Provinces. Their standard of living is proportionately higher and their diet includes a certain amount of imported food. The average cost of living for a bachelor may be assessed at a shilling and twopence a day and for a married man at two shillings and fourpence.

172. The large majority of the educated classes are engaged in clerical occupations at salaries ranging from thirty shillings per month for the beginner up to £300 per annum and over for those in the highest positions. The average salary may be assessed at £72 a year or four shillings a day in the Protectorate. In Lagos where the supply far exceeds the demand a fair average is probably £4 a month. Such a man is usually married and if he is a stranger rents a dwelling, usually a room or a small house with a corrugated iron roof and bamboo or mud walls. It appears that in many cases enquired into in Lagos, where rents compared with other parts of Nigeria are still high, one-sixth part of the income of such persons is expended on rent, taking into account what is received by sub-letting, if the wage earner has rented a fair-sized tenement.

173. The relation of rent to remuneration depends largely on the standard of living of the wage earner. It may be very low and it may be fairly high. These classes rely largely on imported foodstuffs and the increased duties have raised the cost of these luxuries. A temporary levy on the salaries of all persons employed by Government is now in force except in the case of those receiving £50 or less per annum. Many Native Administrations have also been forced to reduce their expenditure on salaries.



### Europeans.

174. The cost of living for Europeans varies considerably from £250-500 for a single man. It has been increased by the imposition of additional customs duties on imported foodstuffs. A temporary levy on official salaries was brought into force on the 1st May, 1933, and remained in operation throughout 1934. The salaries and privileges of non-official Europeans have also suffered during the past three years.

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## CHAPTER IX.

### EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

#### Education.

175. Since 1929 there has been a single department of education for Nigeria, with a head office at Lagos and regional offices at Kaduna and Enugu for detailed administration in the Northern and Southern Provinces.

176. In order to maintain a unified system in which the Education Department, Native Administrations and Missions may work in close association, two Boards of Education have been appointed for the Northern and Southern Provinces respectively, and sit periodically to discuss questions of policy and details of local organisation.

177. Government-aided schools, most of which are under the control of Mission Societies, have been seriously hampered from lack of funds and the general standard of education in them has fallen appreciably. Instead of an increase in grants on behalf of normal expansion, the item has been cut by approximately 6% owing to the general financial depression. As a result, all the teachers have suffered greater or less salary cuts, increments of any sort have been impossible, and the certificated teachers, coming out of the Mission Colleges to replace uncertificated teachers, have had to be content with a living allowance, instead of the salary to which they had looked forward. There are evidences of real hardship and very natural discontent in the profession, and the outlook from these schools, which play an important part in the elementary system of education, is not at all bright.

178. During the year, as in the three previous years, the main object has been to preserve unimpaired the essential structure of the educational system. There are two especially important ideals in educational policy in a young Colony. The first is to spread a

sound education as widely as possible among the masses, in order to produce, in course of time, a literate population, able to participate intelligently in the economic, social and political development of the country. The second ideal is to train up, as soon as may be, a body of men and women who can perform some of the tasks in Government work and private enterprise for which, at the first impact of western civilisation, it is necessary to import Europeans. As regards the first ideal, a limit has, for the time being, been set by financial necessity to the expansion of education among the masses. As regards the second ideal, while the number of schools or classes in schools which provided education of a type comparable to that of junior secondary schools in England is reduced, the output is still ample to provide for all possible demands for employees of this standard of education.

179. The Higher College at Yaba was formally opened by His Excellency the Governor on January 19th. During the year the College accommodated three batches of students, who entered when it was housed in temporary buildings on the Race Course in 1931, 1932 and 1933. The courses at present pursued include medicine, agriculture, engineering and teacher-training for specialists in a single subject or group of allied subjects.

180. The plan to remove the Training College for teachers from Katsina to Kaduna and to develop it as a College with scope somewhat similar to that of the Yaba College has not yet matured, though some higher classes have been started at Katsina for students who wish to qualify for medical, agricultural and engineering studentships.

181. The Elementary Training Centres at Katsina and Bauchi in the Northern Provinces, and at Ibadan, Uyo, Warri and Kake (Cameroons) in the Southern Provinces, staff elementary schools in various parts of the country.

182. The Government Middle Schools at Ibadan and Umuahia are, with King's College, providing most of the candidates for the Higher College at Yaba, though it is hoped that corresponding Mission schools will supply more candidates for the entrance test in the near future.

183. Girls' education continues to thrive. A Lady Superintendent visits at least once a year all the girls' schools in the Southern Provinces. The effect on girls' education of the Superintendent's work has been very noticeable. Not only does she inspect, examine, advise and help the schools in divers ways, but she represents their interests on examination boards and educational committees.



184. Queen's College, Lagos, has had a very successful year, and students therefrom were successful in the Oxford School Certificate Examination. The Domestic Science Centre, which is attached to the College, supplies a long felt need for girls and women of Lagos.

185. The girls' schools at Kano and Katsina have amply justified themselves and are very popular with the Emirs and local inhabitants. New schools, staffed by European mistresses, and paid for by the Native Administrations, have made successful starts at Sokoto and Birnin Kebbi.

186. In 1933 the number of Government and Native Administration schools was 203 with an enrolment of approximately 16,500; of the schools under other ownership the number of assisted was 315 with 60,000 pupils and unassisted 2,750 with 120,000 pupils. The total was 3,268 with an enrolment of 196,500. In addition Koran schools in the Northern Provinces number 36,506 with 209,000 scholars.

### Welfare Institutions.

187. The people of Nigeria have not advanced to that stage of civilisation where it has become necessary for the state to make provision for its destitute members. The family or clan is still a very vital force and its members look after and support one another, in sickness, old age or any other misfortune. For the same reason no provision is required for orphans, all such being considered as part of the family of either their mother or father according to whether the tribe is matrilineal or patrilineal and, in the latter case, whether or not the husband has paid the bride price. In the comparatively few cases where the relatives of such unfortunates cannot be traced provision for their maintenance is made by the Native Administrations or by Government. Thus the Benin Native Administration maintains a settlement for destitute persons of both sexes. The inmates, who are mainly persons who are physically infirm, at present number 14 and receive a monthly subsistence allowance of five shillings. A number of Native Administrations make provision for assisting lepers. Details of the organisations to deal with leprosy are given in Chapter IV.

188. In addition to the family there are other indigenous forms of association particularly in the heavily populated provinces of the south-east, such as the "company" or "age grade", and "title" societies, which perform the functions of provident societies, saving clubs and the like, assisting members to bury their deceased relatives and providing members who have been disowned by their families with proper funerals. Many of these associations also assist members who find themselves in

financial difficulties, advancing them money with which to pay their debts or court fines, and in some cases going as far as hiring lawyers to defend them in court proceedings. There are also more specialised forms of association such as the "egbe" of the Oyo Province which are organised by members of each trade (*e.g.*, smiths, potters, weavers and leather workers). In their main characteristics these correspond with the European trade guilds, and their object is mutual benefit. Again in most parts of the Southern Provinces "slate" clubs (Esusu) are common, the system being for each member to pay into the club a fixed part of his monthly wage, the total sum thus contributed being paid to each member in turn.

189. In the case of young men who find their way to the larger cities in search of employment, if they can find there no relatives or fellow countrymen with whom they can reside, they attach themselves to a prominent citizen or local chief, dwelling in his compound and entering into a relationship with him similar in many ways to that of patron and client.

190. A great many of the educated and literate Africans of the Southern Provinces are members of Nigerian branches of various friendly societies of the United Kingdom such as Freemasons, Oddfellows, Rechabites and Foresters.

191. The ancient forms of recreation of the people, wrestling, and playing which includes mumming, dancing, singing and drumming show no signs of losing their popular appeal. Indeed it has been found necessary in all large townships to regulate the latter form of amusement by the issue of drumming licences. In the Afikpo Division inter-village wrestling matches are regularly held and arouse the greatest enthusiasm.

192. As regards the Northern Provinces it may be said that each one of the many scores of tribes has its own guild or organisation for the purpose of providing amusement and of encouraging music, art and even drama. Wherever a considerable standard of achievement has been attained these interests are closely controlled by guilds which are often conducted on traditional and exclusive lines. Such organisations vary enormously in range, influence and attainment. Some tribes seem to specialise in music—as the Tiv and Gwari; others, like the Nupe, excel in arts and crafts, while a large proportion are in such a primitive state of development that it is difficult at present to appreciate the significance of their aesthetic achievement. Continuous study both by anthropological and administrative officers is resulting in the compilation of much information on this subject. Similar organisations for the more literate and generally immigrant population of the Northern Provinces are few and are



inclined to enjoy a spasmodic existence. Most clubs that have been formed are almost exclusively social in character, but at Minna, Ilorin and at Bida in the Niger Province literary clubs have been inaugurated.

193. At the same time the African takes readily to English games which he learns at school and continues when he has left whenever possible. Association Football and Cricket are the most popular and most universally indulged in—while Tennis is growing rapidly in popularity but the cost of materials is high in comparison with the wealth of the players. There are African Sports Clubs in all the large townships and in many Government stations. Athletics are encouraged by the presentation of Shields which are competed for by the various schools in a given area. Lack of suitable sports grounds and money alone are a hindrance to ever greater numbers of the rising generation taking an active part in organised games of every kind. Polo is played by Africans at several places in the Northern Provinces and the Katsina team, with three natives, has won open tournaments.

194. Encouragement is given in the pursuit of more intellectual recreation by the formation in the various educational centres of Old Boys' and Old Girls' Societies amongst pupils who have left school. These have regular meetings, and give concerts. Apart from the instruction given in the schools there are many societies formed by the educated inhabitants of the larger towns of the Southern Provinces with the object of promoting social intercourse, literature, and sometimes music. In Lagos these societies are usually formed by members of the many Nigerian or Non-Nigerian African tribes settled in it, or by members of the many religious denominations in the town. In Ibadan a large institution of this nature was founded in 1931, consisting of a Reading and Social Club under the Presidency of the Bale of Ibadan. The club gives musical and dramatic performances. Ibadan also possesses a small public pleasure garden which was opened in 1933 for the recreation of educated Africans and an attempt is being made to establish a public library. At Ijebu Ode the Native Administration has maintained a Library and Reading Room since 1928. In Benin a Dramatic Society has been formed under the patronage of the Oba. The Kano Native Administration maintains a good library with books of reference and periodicals and also an Emirate Plantation: the educated classes are becoming interested in flower growing as they have been in the Southern Provinces for many years.

195. In Lagos a suitable building for musical and dramatic performances exists in the Glover Hall which is controlled by Trustees and performances open to the public are given from time to time by African and European amateurs. The Tom Jones

Memorial Trustees provide an excellent public reading room and library, and also a meeting hall for debates and lectures. The grant of £1,600 by the Trustees of the Carnegie Foundation has made possible the formation of a lending library in Lagos which was opened in September, 1932, and has proved very successful. Sub-libraries have been formed at Abeokuta, Burutu, Enugu, and elsewhere.

196. The Boy Scout and Girl Guide Movement is well represented in the Southern Provinces, and troops of the former have recently been formed in Zaria, Minna and Jos. At the end of 1934 there were seventeen Guide companies, four Ranger companies and five Brownie packs. The figures for the Boy Scouts Association are as follows:—

	1934.	1933.	1932.	1931.
Troops, Scouts ...	113	91	80	86
Packs, Wolf Cubs ...	20	15	17	11
Crews, Rover Scouts ...	8	7	6	4
<hr/>				
Scouts ... ..	2,838	2,443	2,167	2,031
Wolf Cubs ... ..	348	204	192	188
Rover Scouts ... ..	142	135	102	116
Scouters ... ..	197	178	156	160
Cubmasters ... ..	14	14	14	15
Rover Scout Leaders	12	6	5	5
Commissioners ...	20	11	13	13

197. The Salvation Army maintains a Boys' Industrial Home at Yaba near Lagos which accommodates fifty boys and which has shown the most satisfactory results during the past few years. The boys trained therein are juvenile offenders committed to the Home under mandate for varying periods until they reach the age of eighteen. Under a new arrangement a fixed sum of £1,000 a year is given by Government to the Salvation Army for the upkeep of the Home. Among the trades taught are carpentry, tailoring, bricklaying, french polishing and painting and practical experience is gained by carrying out repairs and alterations to the buildings. Boys taught trades receive a set of tools on discharge and a large number, with whom the Superintendent keeps in touch after discharge, are doing well. Farming and vegetable gardening are carried out in the grounds of the Home and recreation has been provided by games and the formation of a drum and fife band. A Government Medical Officer attends to the health of the boys who are often in very bad physical condition when admitted to the Home. The improvement in the boys, both mental and physical, after a few months is most noticeable.



## CHAPTER X.

## COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

198. *General.*—A Communications Board which includes the Chief Secretary (Chairman), the Lieutenant-Governor of the Southern and the Chief Commissioner of the Northern Provinces and the Heads of the Marine, Railway and Public Works Departments, and advises the Government on arterial communication by road, rail, water and air, ensures a proper co-ordination of development proposals of all classes of communications.

199. A Ports Advisory Committee, with a Sub-Committee at Port Harcourt, advises the Governor on all matters pertaining to shipping and navigation within the ports, its functions being purely advisory. The Committee consists of the Chief Secretary (Chairman), the Heads of the Departments of Marine, Lands, Customs, Railway and Harbour, with four unofficial members representing commercial interests.

**Marine.**

200. The activities of the Marine Department are still curtailed owing to the continued financial depression and stagnation of trade. Public utility services which include pilotage, towage, dredging, transport services, lighthouses and buoyage have been interfered with as little as possible so as not to hinder shipping facilities. No reclamation has been undertaken and economies continue to be effected in dockyards, waterways, surveys and technical education.

201. The sea patrol for the Preventive Service of the Eastern Frontier has been abandoned. The *Vigilant*, which carried out this service, is very old and beyond economical repair and has been retrenched.

202. *Harbours.*—Navigable conditions at Lagos, Port Harcourt and Calabar harbours remain satisfactory, although constant dredging is necessary in Lagos Harbour in order to maintain the necessary draughts in the entrance channel and in the channels to the various berths.

203. Shoaling is taking place on Forcados Bar and in the Cawthorne Channel to Degema, and is causing much concern. The situation of these places render dredging impracticable without enormous preliminary expense for revetment works, and such expense is out of the question at the present time. Frequent surveys of these areas are being carried out and the position closely watched.

### Lagos Harbour.

204. Navigable conditions both inside and outside the entrance works have remained satisfactory though as usual constant dredging has been necessary to maintain the required depths. Considerable repairs to both the East and West Moles have been carried out to make good the damage effected during the heavy storms experienced in June, 1933.

205. The scheme for providing Lagos Island with adequate communication with the mainland by way of Iddo Island has made further progress. Carter Bridge was finally completed in March, 1934, and the work of widening Denton Causeway and its road approaches was nearing completion at the end of the year.

### Railway.

206. The Nigerian Railway has a total length of 1,905 miles of single track open line. Including sidings the total mileage amounts to 2,173 miles. It is divided into a Western and Eastern line. The former comprises a main line from Lagos (Iddo and Apapa Stations) to N'Guru, a distance of 847 miles, and contains branch lines from Ifo to Idogo, Minna to Baro, Zaria to Kaura Namoda and a narrow gauge line from Zaria to Jos. The Eastern line commences at Port Harcourt, joining the Western line at Kaduna (569 miles) and connects with Jos by a branch line from Kafanchan (sixty-three miles).

The relaying and realignment of the track between Minna and Kaduna Junction is now complete. The ballasting programme was finished early in the current year with the exception of some  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile of unconsolidated bank which will be undertaken during the coming dry season. For the greater part of the year labour has been entirely concentrated on the making up of banks, improvement of cuttings and general drainage.

207. The Gross Earnings of the Railway during the financial year ended 31st March, 1934, were £1,868,172 or £2,254 less than the previous year. The total expenditure during this period amounted to £1,070,826 with net Receipts of £797,346. This amount was insufficient to cover interest charges of £1,045,255 and the balance of £247,909 was obtained from the General Revenue of the Colony. The ratio of Working Expenditure to gross receipts was 57.59%.

208. The total number of passengers carried was 5,179,206, an increase of 2,801,268 on the previous year. Goods traffic amounted to 627,475 tons, showing a decrease of 18,579 tons. These figures include minerals and livestock. The increase in passengers followed a reduction of third class fares to  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per mile.



209. The estimated revenue for the calendar year 1934 is placed at £2,018,473, and the approximate expenditure, including interest on Capital and operating expenses, is expected to amount to £2,114,629.

210. During the year there were 193 stations and twenty-one halts open for traffic. A new halt named Sogunle has been built at mile 8 from Iddo and will be opened on the 1st January, 1935.

211. (i) The Suburban train services between Iddo-Yaba and Agbado were extensively augmented, giving an hourly service throughout the day to and from Yaba. That these services are popular is evidenced by the fact that approximately 4,000 passengers are carried weekly by one articulated steam rail coach.

(ii) In September serious washouts occurred at Akerrie and Zungeru. In the latter case approximately 200 feet of bank between the North and South portions of Zungeru bridge was washed away. The line was interrupted for traffic from the 2nd to the 18th September.

(iii) Numerous concessions and variations of traffic rates were made, the more important being as follows:—

- (a) The 2d. per ton flat rate between Iddo-Apapa and Jebba which was introduced in October, 1933, was continued throughout 1934.
- (b) First and Second Class week-end return tickets issued at single fare for the double journey. Also Tourist Tickets.
- (c) As an experiment, the 1st and 2nd Class fares between Iddo and Oshogbo, Port Harcourt and Enugu, and between any two stations on the Bauchi Light Railway were reduced from 4d. to 3d. per mile and from 1½d. to 1d. respectively.
- (d) Rates were reduced on some commodities. In no case was any rate increased.

212. The installation of the new plant at Ebute Metta Workshops has proved to be justified. Six engines have been converted from non-standard and obsolete types into types conforming with the adopted standards. Three more are being dealt with. Requirements for castings for Government Departments and private firms have been met. At the Enugu Subsidiary Shops, heavy repairs have been discontinued and the shops put on a service repairs basis.

213. A standard design of covered goods wagon has been adopted. Some of these have also been mounted on surplus low side bogie wagons purchased for Railway Construction work. This wagon has a capacity of 25 tons. The component parts of

the wagon have been standardised for the smaller types of 20 tons and 10 tons capacity as well as goods brake vans. The eventual savings in the stocking of standard component parts, and in the labour required to effect repairs in the future will be considerable. The bodies for these wagons are constructed of Nigerian timber.

214. The output from the workshops was:—

138 Engines, including 5 Conversions.

96 Coaching Vehicles.

1,008 Goods Vehicles.

215. On the 1st April, 1934, the Running Section of the former Transportation Department was absorbed into the Mechanical Department. The European supervisory staff was reduced. Each district is now supervised by one locomotive officer. Further economies have been effected by extended engine runs, better utilisation of engine power, improved maintenance in engine sheds, and by intensive research and analysis into every activity. Endeavours have been made to increase the interest of all concerned, both European and African, in increased efficiency and by economy in the use of consumable materials, such as coal, oil and spare parts. Improvement Classes have been started for African Enginemen, with a view to giving them a more extended and intelligent insight into the commonplace things of their everyday occupation.

216. During the year under review, the motor service, maintained on the Zaria-Sokoto road, was successful. The experimental service between N'Guru and Maiduguri served the needs of the Geological Survey and Bornu Native Administration but little traffic was carried due to cheaper animal rates and low produce prices.

## Roads and Bridges.

### *Public Works Department.*

217. The total length of roads maintained by the Public Works Department is 3,775 miles. Of this total 168 miles are bituminous surfaced, 3,273 are gravelled and 334 are earth roads. In addition 180 miles of township roads are maintained. Continued research on bituminous surfacing and an analysis of natural available road materials has proved that suitable soil grading with and without bituminous proofing provides adequate road surfaces at a lower cost for construction than has hitherto been practicable.

218. Two obsolete timber bridges on the Enugu-Abakaliki roads are being replaced by standard steel spans,



219. There are two classes of roads in the Northern Provinces : the “ all-season ” road which, except for a few short lengths, has gravel surfaces and bridges capable of carrying two four-ton axle loads : and the “ dry-season ” road which is for the most part a rough cross country track with earth surfaces and temporary drifts or causeways at river and stream crossings and which can only be used between December and May. The Native Administrations maintain 2,492 and 7,365 miles of all-season and dry-season roads respectively. (There are also 1,013 miles of Public Works Department all-season road in addition). Connection with the Southern Provinces road system is made on the following routes Ilorin-Ogbomosho, Awtun-Ado-Ekiti and Aiere-Ikeram and during the past year construction of additional links between Oturkpo and Obolo, Ankpa and N’sukka, Kabba and Ikole have been completed. The most important project now in hand is the Jega-Yelwa-Jebba route to provide an outlet to Western Sokoto.

Work is also in progress on the establishment of all-season road communication with Yola *via* Biu and Garkidda and the construction of the Dindima Bridge over the Gongola on the direct road from Bauchi to Gombe.

220. There are approximately 5,409 miles of road maintained by the Native Administrations of the Southern Provinces. These are divided as follows :—

Tar Roads	...	...	10 miles.
Gravel Roads	...	...	1,879 „
Earth Roads	...	...	3,520 „
			<hr/>
			5,409 „
			<hr/>

The Idiroko Road was opened for a short period at the beginning of the year but had to be closed during the wet season as it became impassable in places.

### Posts and Telegraphs.

221. *Mails*.—The fortnightly service of Messrs. Elder Dempster Lines, Limited, was supplemented on three occasions during the year by additional sailings. Mails are also conveyed to Europe as opportunity occurs by the steamers of the Woermann Linie and Holland West African Line. The internal main mail routes are operated by means of railway, motor transport or marine services. Subsidiary branch services are maintained by motor, carrier or canoe transport to all the outlying Post Offices connected with the main mail routes.

222. *Telegraphs*.—The principal transmitting offices are Lagos, Kaduna and Enugu which are inter-connected providing alternate channels in case of either one of the main lines being interrupted.

There are 102 Post Offices opened for telegraph business. Quadruplex telegraph working for main line transmission has continued to be very satisfactory. Lagos traffic is transmitted direct to Kano a distance of over 700 miles, by means of a quadruplex repeater at Kaduna.

223. *Wireless*.—The wireless stations at Lagos, Badagry, Buea, Bamenda and Mamfe which provide internal telegraph communication have given satisfactory service throughout the year and have proved their reliability. The Lagos wireless station receives regularly the official press bulletins broadcast from Rugby.

224. *Wireless Broadcasting*.—In connection with a proposed radio distribution scheme to work in conjunction with the Empire Broadcasting Service, experimental work continued during the year at the Lagos Broadcasting Receiving Station.

225. *Telephones*.—There are twenty-four Telephone Exchange centres in operation, trunk telephone service being available between :—

- (a) Lagos area exchanges and Abeokuta and Ibadan;
- (b) Port Harcourt and Aba;
- (c) Calabar-Itu and Uyo;
- (d) Victoria, Buea and Tiko;
- (e) Jos and Bukuru.

The new central Telephone Exchange in Lagos which includes the Ebute Metta and Apapa areas was completed during 1934.

226. *Departmental Training Schools*.—In the Technical School for African Engineering officers refresher courses have been given to selected groups from all Engineering grades with satisfactory results. The examinations encourage the belief that in time qualified African technical officers will be available to fill more responsible positions. In the Telegraph School, probationer Postal Clerks and Telegraphists are trained in all branches of Post Office, Telegraph and Telephone manipulative work.

### Aviation.

227. The Marine Department is at present responsible for all matters in connection with aviation in Nigeria. Up to the present however the demand for air facilities has not been sufficient to justify the adoption of any policy of extensive aerial development. There are ten landing grounds in all—at Lagos, Ilorin, Minna, Jos, Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Bauchi,



Yola and Maiduguri, but they are of an emergency character only and it is desirable that ample notification should be given by aviators who wish to make use of any of them. The series of creeks and lagoons along the coast line of Nigeria render this area eminently suitable for seaplane operations.

228. No Royal Air Force machines have visited Nigeria during the year.

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## CHAPTER XI.

### BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

229. *Banking.*—The Bank of British West Africa, Limited, and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) have, respectively, eighteen and nine branches established at stations throughout Nigeria and the latter bank has a branch in the Cameroons territory under British Mandate. The Nigerian Mercantile Bank, Limited and the National Bank of Nigeria, Limited, both of which are incorporated in Nigeria, have also opened offices.

230. *Post Office Savings Bank.*—There are facilities for the transaction of Post Office Savings Bank business at seventy Post Offices. During the year the number of depositors has increased by 18.2 per cent and the total of the amount deposited by 27.1 per cent.

231. *Currency.*—The following coins and notes are current in Nigeria :—

- (a) British gold, silver and bronze coins.
- (b) West African Currency Board silver and “ alloy ” coins of the following denominations :—  
2s., 1s., 6d. and 3d.
- (c) West African Currency Board nickel bronze coins of the following denominations :—  
1d.,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and one-tenth pence.
- (d) West African Currency Board notes in denominations of £1 and 10s. There are also small numbers of £5, 2s. and 1s. notes remaining in circulation which are in process of withdrawal.

West African Silver coin to the value of £78,041 was withdrawn from circulation during the year 1933-34 and was shipped to the United Kingdom for the purpose of being melted down.

232. Owing to Inter-Colonial movements in coin and currency notes it is not possible to estimate the amounts which are in circulation in Nigeria, but for the British West African Dependencies, collectively, the following totals are recorded:—

	30th June, 1932.	30th June, 1933.	30th June, 1934.
	£	£	£
West African Silver Coin ... ..	1,677,891	1,543,736	1,432,650
„ „ Alloy Coin ... ..	6,168,317	6,716,944	5,374,078
„ „ Nickel Bronze Coin ... ..	597,706	606,193	624,628
„ „ Currency Notes ... ..	628,122	705,140	697,024

## CHAPTER XII.

### PUBLIC WORKS.

233. *Public Works Department. General.*—Local responsibility for development and maintenance under Native Administrations is encouraged; in addition to their own work, many Native Administrations works organisations now undertake all maintenance on behalf of Government in their respective territories. Throughout the Southern and Northern Provinces technical assistance to Native Administrations is provided for by the secondment of Engineers and Inspectors or by Departmental officers where there is no seconded staff.

234. A large sawmill for the conversion of local timber from the log is maintained at Ijora (near Lagos). Its operation continues to play an important part in the development of the internal and export timber trade.

235. Maternity centres with accommodation for twelve in-patients and twenty nurses in training in each were erected by contract at Aba and Calabar.

Important problems in connection with damage done by termites to buildings are being investigated.

236. The Department maintains classes for training technical probationers in Lagos and Kaduna; the work in class is supplemented by periods of practical work under Divisional officers. An Engineer officer is attached to Yaba Higher College for the training of special students destined for the technical services. The services of technical probationers have been largely utilised on road surveys and investigations into engineering projects.



237. *Waterworks*.—Existing supplies were normally maintained. The improvements being carried out to the supplies at Abeokuta and Benin are practically completed. Work in connection with the improvement of the Calabar supply has been commenced. Several schemes are awaiting approval including supplies to Okene, Ife, Iseyin, Ilorin and Bida. Investigations of water supplies for Ibadan, Iwo, Ede, Oshogbo, Kumba, Zaria, Katsina, Jos and several places in Ijebu Province were continued.

238. *Electricity Undertakings*.—The Electrical branch of the Department manages and operates the electricity undertakings in Lagos, Port Harcourt, Kaduna and Enugu. The units generated by the four undertakings in 1934 amounted to 8,886,734, an increase of 603,269 units over the previous year. The revenue from the sale of current, hire of apparatus and fans was £101,254, an increase of £8,833. There is a hiring scheme for cookers, refrigerators, water heaters and fans. An assisted wiring scheme operates at three of the undertakings. Construction work in connection with the Abeokuta Electricity Scheme was commenced during the year.

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## CHAPTER XIII.

### JUSTICE AND POLICE.

239. For the purpose of the administration of justice four Courts are established in Nigeria:—

The Supreme Court.

The High Court of the Protectorate.

The Magistrates' Courts.

The Native Courts.

Towards the end of 1933 various new Ordinances were enacted to reform the judicial organisation of the country. These came into operation on April 1st.

240. The jurisdiction exercised by the Supreme Court and the proceedings therein, are regulated by the Supreme Court Ordinance. Its territorial jurisdiction is limited to the Colony and for certain classes of proceedings in the Protectorate. The personnel of the Court consists of a Chief Justice and judges. In addition the Governor appoints commissioners who exercise limited jurisdiction within the Colony. Criminal causes in the Supreme Court are generally tried on information, but trials before commissioners are conducted summarily.

241. A statement is appended showing the number of cases brought before the Supreme Court during the twelve months from 1st November, 1933, to 31st October, 1934.

Description.	Northern Provinces.	Southern Provinces.	Colony.	Total.
Offences against the person ... ..	36	246	548	830
„ „ property ... ..	186	467	958	1,611
„ „ Currency ... ..	...	7	11	18
„ „ Public Order, Law and Morality ... ..	308	870	4,310	5,488
Miscellaneous Offences ... ..	414	578	451	1,443
Total ... ..	944	2,168	6,278	9,390

242. The Provincial Court ceased to exist on the 31st of March, 1934, and was replaced by the Courts constituted by the Protectorate Courts Ordinance, No. 45 of 1933. As from April 1st, 1934, in accordance with this ordinance, justice has been administered in the Protectorate by the High Court of the Protectorate and the Magistrates' Courts and by the Native Courts established in accordance with Ordinance No. 44 of 1933. Probate, Admiralty and Divorce suits and cases arising under certain Ordinances are reserved for the Supreme Court.

The High Court and Magistrates' Courts are open to legal practitioners who were debarred from appearing in the Provincial Courts, while major powers have been placed in the hands of Judges and Assistant Judges and minor powers have been vested in Magistrates. The powers enjoyed by Administrative Officers have, for the most part, been considerably curtailed, save in the more inaccessible areas.

At the same time the Native Court system has been linked with the other Protectorate Courts by the granting of the right of appeal, by virtue of which, except in a few cases which come solely within the purview of Native tribunals, there are avenues of appeal from the lowest Native Court to either the Governor or the West African Court of Appeal.



The number of cases brought before the High Court of the Protectorate and Magistrates' Courts during the period 1st April, to 31st October, 1934, are given in the table below:—

Description.	Northern Provinces.	Southern Provinces.	Total.
Offences against the person ... ..	112	746	858
"    "    property ... ..	429	1,038	1,467
"    "    Currency ... ..	13	46	59
"    "    Public Order, Law and Morality ... ..	100	453	553
Miscellaneous Offences ... ..	751	4,003	4,754
Total ... ..	1,405	6,286	7,691

The figures for the Provincial Court from 1st of January, 1934, to the 31st of March, 1934, are as follows:—

Description.	Southern Provinces.	Northern Provinces.
1. Offences against the Person ... ..	375	61
2. "    "    Property ... ..	226	28
3. "    "    Currency ... ..	12	...
4. "    "    Public Order, Law and Morality ...	441	57
5. Miscellaneous Offences ... ..	1,154	5
Totals ... ..	2,208	151

243. The Native Courts Ordinance provides for the constitution of Native Courts. The Resident may by warrant, and subject to the approval of the Governor, establish Native Courts at convenient places within his province and their jurisdiction is defined by the warrant establishing them. The law administered by Native Courts is the local native law and custom but they are further authorised to administer certain Ordinances. All native tribunals are subject to control by the Administrative staff. There are avenues of appeal to the High Court of the Protectorate and to the Governor.

244. The whole of the Protectorate is covered by the jurisdiction of the Native Courts. The powers of these Courts vary according to the development of the place in which they are situated and the intellectual capacity of their members. There are thus four grades of Court whose powers vary from that of three months imprisonment to full powers including the death sentence, which is, however, subject to the confirmation of the

Governor. The following table shows the number of civil and criminal cases tried in the Native Courts for the year 1933 (figures for 1934 are not yet available).

Province.					Population.	No. of Native Courts.	No. of Criminal Cases.	No. of Civil Cases including Adultery.
Adamawa	...	...	...	...	670,709	45	4,317	7,778
Bauchi	...	...	...	...	1,029,213	51	1,669	16,834
Benue	...	...	...	...	976,322	77	4,522	10,429
Bornu	...	...	...	...	1,102,124	40	2,216	5,880
Ilorin	...	...	...	...	475,124	39	1,263	3,442
Kabba	...	...	...	...	450,509	39	2,192	3,888
Kano	...	...	...	...	2,432,451	41	7,929	38,892
Niger	...	...	...	...	453,744	46	2,927	4,510
Plateau	...	...	...	...	563,035	58	2,249	7,019
Sokoto	...	...	...	...	1,856,784	58	6,372	16,499
Zaria ...	...	...	...	...	1,306,923	45	3,173	18,415
Total, Northern Provinces ...					11,316,938	539	38,829	133,586
Abeokuta	...	...	...	...	434,526	33	2,943	7,028
Benin	...	...	...	...	493,215	92	7,703	10,912
Calabar	...	...	...	...	899,503	95	9,132	26,807
Cameroons	...	...	...	...	384,796	62	2,336	5,138
Ijebu ...	...	...	...	...	305,898	22	2,369	2,128
Ogoja	...	...	...	...	726,233	148	6,472	5,058
Ondo ..	...	...	...	...	462,560	35	3,646	5,708
Onitsha	...	...	...	...	1,107,745	91	7,684	4,681
Owerri	...	...	...	...	1,617,281	101	24,057	17,941
Oyo ...	...	...	...	...	1,342,259	72	2,783	11,488
Warri	...	...	...	...	444,533	273	5,400	7,924
Total, Southern Provinces ...					8,218,549*	1,024	74,525	104,813

\*Apparent.



### Payment of Fines.

245. Ample time is always allowed for payment of fines. There is no provision for probation in the Native Courts except for juvenile offenders. The proportion of imprisonment to fines is shown in the following table for the year

				Sentences of fines.*	Sentences of impri- sonment.†	Sentences of fine or imprison- ment in default.‡	Total prosecu- tions.
SUPREME COURT.							
Northern Provinces ...	...			506	198	78	782
Southern „ ...	...			1,221	600	80	1,930
Colony ...	...			4,372	1,001	235	5,608
Total ...	...			6,099	1,799	393	8,320
PROTECTORATE COURTS. (From 1.4.34–31.10.34)							
Northern Provinces ...	...			641	477	21	1,342
Southern „ ...	...			3,201	3,187	197	7,749
Total ...	...			3,842	3,664	218	9,091
NATIVE COURTS.							
Northern Provinces ...	...			19,789	12,064	...	45,541
Southern „ ...	...			34,983	22,809	...	122,659
Total ...	...			54,772	34,873	...	168,200

\* For Supreme Court. Total of fines actually paid.

† „ „ Includes imprisonment instead of fine.

‡ „ „ Where person was imprisoned in default but eventually paid the fine less value of imprisonment.  
Figures not available for other courts.

246. For purposes of administration the Nigeria Police Force is divided into three areas:—the Colony in charge of a Commissioner of Police, the Northern Area in charge of an Assistant Inspector-General with Headquarters at Kaduna, and the Southern Area. Until the end of August the Southern Area was in charge of an Assistant Inspector-General with headquarters at Enugu, but owing to the urgent necessity for economy it was decided to close down this office and the police in the Southern Area are now administered from the Inspector-General's headquarters in Lagos.

247. Recruits for the Colony and for the Northern and Southern Areas are trained at Lagos, Kaduna and Enugu respectively. The physique of candidates accepted for enlistment continues to be satisfactory and the educational attainments show a steady improvement. The higher educational standard in the Northern Area is particularly gratifying, for during the year twenty-four men passed the Higher Standard English Examination as against six in 1933, and 121 passed the Lower Standard English Examination as against eighty-six in 1933.

248. Cordial relations are fostered between the Native Administration police forces and the Nigeria Government police and police officers have devoted much of their leisure time in advising and assisting in the training of neighbouring native administration forces. During the year a conference of senior non-commissioned officers of the Native Administration police forces in the Northern Area was held under the presidency of a Commissioner of Police at Kaduna when various police matters were discussed.

One Assistant Commissioner of Police was seconded to the Ilorin Native Administration during the year, and a Superintendent of Police was loaned to the Ibadan Native Administration to assist in reorganising that force. Arrangements are being made to loan two other officers to Native Administrations in the coming year.

249. The illicit distillation of spirits still continues to cause great anxiety. During the greater part of 1933 and until June of this year a special squad of police under a European officer conducted a campaign against this evil in the Warri and Owerri Provinces, but a shortage of European officers necessitated the withdrawal of this squad. This special intensive campaign had the effect of temporarily suppressing illicit distillation in the district in which it was operating, but as soon as it was suspended the illicit traffic quickly re-appeared.

The high price of trade spirits and the cheapness with which illicit spirit can be manufactured ensures a large profit to the manufacturer and seller, while the simplicity of the apparatus required for its manufacture and the difficult country in which the police have to operate—mainly among the creeks and waterways—are all in favour of the lawbreaker being able to dismantle his apparatus and to disappear before the police arrive at the scene of his operations. The Commissioners of Police in the provinces use such means as they have at their disposal for suppressing this illicit traffic and a number of cases are brought before the Courts.



250. At the beginning of the year an officer was specially detailed to make enquiries into the prevalence of counterfeit coining and it is satisfactory to know that there is no evidence that this offence is appreciably on the increase or that the traffic in counterfeit coin is being controlled by any specific gang.

251. An officer was also detailed during the year to investigate the question of child stealing and slave dealing in children which appeared to be becoming prevalent in the south eastern provinces of Southern Nigeria. It would seem there is evidence to support the fact that children of both sexes are being illegally procured and sold, but the matter is complicated by the fact that it is difficult to establish proof of parentage when children alleged to have been stolen were too young to remember their parents, while in other cases the so-called "slaves" do not desire to leave the custody of the persons with whom they are found and therefore render very little help to the investigating officer. The investigations are still being continued.

252. In the Colony Area a severe check was given to the prevalence of armed raiders around the district of Agege by the conviction in September of eighteen persons who were charged with murder, armed robbery and burglary.

These persons disguised with grass masks or by having their faces painted with white chalk, and armed with guns and matchets, conducted raids on numerous farm houses in the Agege area, drove the inhabitants out of their houses, stole their property, and in certain cases murdered the occupier and raped his wives.

The salutary sentences,—five persons were condemned to death—awarded have had effect and since September there has been no recurrence of these raids. Four of the capital sentences were subsequently commuted to imprisonment for fifteen years and one was quashed by the West African Court of Appeal.

253. As a result of police enquiries 20 oz. of Indian Hemp (*Cannabis Sativa L*) which had been imported from various ships calling at Lagos, were seized and nine persons convicted for being concerned in its importation.

### Prisons.

254. There are two types of prisons in Nigeria:—

(a) Native Administration Prisons.

(b) Government Prisons.

*Native Administration Prisons.*

255. There is at least one Native Administration prison at each Native Administration Centre in the Northern Provinces, and such prisons are also maintained at the following stations in the Southern Provinces:—Abeokuta, Ijebu Ode, Oyo, Ibadan, Ilesha, Oshogbo, Okitipupa and Ife. These prisons accommodate prisoners sentenced in the Native Courts; they are controlled by the Native Administration concerned under the supervision of Government Administrative Staff.

256. The daily average of persons detained in them is about 4,358 (4,033 Northern Provinces, 325 Southern Provinces). Their sizes differ greatly, from the Kano Central Prison with over seven hundred inmates to others where the daily overage is below ten. They are constantly inspected by medical and administrative officers and the utmost attention is paid to the conditions under which the prisoners live and work. In the Northern Provinces in 1933 the death rate per 1,000 of the daily average was 15.62, a welcome decrease as compared with 57.11 in 1931. In the Southern Provinces the health of the prisoners and discipline of the staff have been good.

*Government Prisons.*

257. These are organised as two departments, one for the Northern and one for the Southern Provinces and Colony.

The Prisons Department in the Northern Provinces is under the control of the Assistant Inspector-General of Police who acts as Director of Prisons and has its own complement of European Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents, African Warders and Clerical Staff. Three prisons are maintained in the Northern Provinces, one each at Kaduna, Lokoja and Jos with accommodation for 320, 222 and 102 prisoners respectively. They contain prisoners sentenced in the Supreme and Provincial Courts prior to the 1st April, 1934, and in the Protectorate Court on and after 1st April, 1934. A certain number of prisoners undergoing sentences in the Native Administration Gaols are transferred, with the approval of the Chief Commissioner, Northern Provinces, to these Prisons. The buildings are of permanent construction and contain separate accommodation for female prisoners, infirmaries and a certain number of separate cells. The Lokoja Government Prison also includes a Government Lunatic Asylum. The health of the prisoners is good; there have been six deaths (two of which were awaiting trial) for the eleven months ended 30th November, 1934, as compared with eleven in 1933.



258. The Prison Department, Southern Provinces and Colony, is under the control of a Director of Prisons. Two types of prisons are maintained:—

- (a) Convict Prisons which accommodate all classes of prisoners including those with sentences of two years and over.
- (b) Provincial and Divisional Prisons which accommodate all classes of prisoners except convicts with sentences of two years and over.

Both types accommodate prisoners sentenced by the Supreme, Protectorate and Native Courts.

259. At the close of the year there were 46 prisons being maintained by Government in the Southern Provinces and Colony. Of this number five are Convict Prisons, eight Provincial Prisons, and 33 Divisional Prisons. The Convict Prisons are of “permanent” construction and are situated at Abeokuta, Calabar, Enugu, Lagos and Port Harcourt. The remainder are of semi-permanent or temporary construction and are situated at the various Provincial and Divisional headquarters in the Southern Provinces. Convict Prisons are in charge of a Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of the Prisons Department, Southern Provinces, the remainder are in charge of members of the Administrative Staff acting as Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents.

260. The total prison population carried on the registers for the year 1933 was 38,862, made up as follows:—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Under Warrants of the Supreme Court ...	6,314	271
„ „ „ „ Provincial Court	11,680	446
„ „ „ „ Native Courts ...	17,924	2,227

(Figures for 1934 are not yet available). The daily average number of prisoners locked up for the same year was 6,686.97.

261. The general health of the prisoners is good. The diet scale is ample and with the exception of those suffering from some disease on admission, there are few prisoners who do not put on weight while serving a sentence.

262. There is a mark system in force both in the Northern Provinces and in the Southern Provinces and Colony whereby prisoners serving a sentence of two years or more may earn by good work and conduct a maximum remission of one-fourth of their sentence.

263. A system of classification has now been extended to all Government prisons whereby, as far as the facilities of each prison permit, habitual criminals, first offenders and adolescents are separated.

In the Northern Provinces the prisoners are divided for disciplinary measures into four divisions. On admission long sentenced prisoners are placed in the fourth division. After periods of three months, six months and nine months they are promoted to the third, second and first divisions respectively according to their conduct during the required period in the preceding division. Prisoners in the first and second divisions are granted, proportionately, certain minor privileges as an inducement to continue to be of good behaviour.

264. Instruction was continued in the following trades and the articles made by the convicts were up to the usual high standard:—

Tinsmithing.	Bricklaying.
Blacksmithing.	Printing.
Carpentry.	Basket making.
Tailoring.	Furniture making.
Boot and Shoe repairing.	Cloth weaving.
Brickmaking.	Mat-making.

### Juvenile Prisoners.

265. There is no special provision made for this class of prisoner and very few are committed to prison by the Native, Protectorate or Supreme Courts. Juvenile offenders are either placed on probation or light corporal punishment is administered. They are even more rarely confined in the Native Administration or Divisional prisons. The Kano Native Administration, however, has instituted a Juvenile prison outside the city, where basket work and gardening are taught.

266. Legislation for the treatment of Juvenile Offenders was revised and enlarged by the passing of the Native Children (Custody and Reformation) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1932, so that effect might be given to the recommendations of the Colonial Office 1930 Conference. An Industrial School for boys convicted of criminal offences was established at Enugu in the latter part of 1932 and on the 1st of January, 1933, accommodation was available for thirty boys. During 1933 two more brick buildings were erected and accommodation is now available for eighty boys. The buildings were erected by prison trained artisans with bricks manufactured in the Enugu prison brickfields. Commitment to the institution is by mandate. Treatment is in accordance with modern principles and the degree in which the treatment is applied to the individual varies according to his mental or physical capacity. At the end of the year there were seventeen boys in the institution.



## CHAPTER XIV.

## LEGISLATION.

The following are the more important enactments of 1933:—

**Ordinances.**

267. After the sixty-four Ordinances which were enacted in 1933 the twenty-four Ordinances of 1934 would seem to indicate that the flow of progressive legislation had subsided somewhat but of the sixty-four Ordinances of 1933 no less than twenty-two related to the creation of the new courts in the Protectorate and to certain other judicial reforms which did not come into effect until April, 1934. Ordinance No. 44 replaced the Native Courts Ordinance (Chapter 5) which had been in operation since 1918 and provided for the creation of new Native Courts: the Ordinance in addition to containing many of the provisions of the existing law contained many new features one of the most important being the provision of extensive opportunities for appeal. Ordinance No. 45 provided for the creation of new courts, the High Court, throughout the Protectorate in the place of the existing Provincial Courts and to some extent restricted the territorial jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in the Protectorate.

268. In addition to the two Ordinances to which reference has just been made the West African Court of Appeal Ordinance, 1933 (No. 47) conferred the right of appeal to the West African Court of Appeal in many civil and criminal cases decided or heard on appeal in the Supreme Court and High Court. The effect of this Ordinance is to render it possible in practically any case of importance in Nigeria for a decision to be obtained from the West African Court of Appeal; in consequence the Full Court of the Supreme Court ceased to function as such.

269. To give effect to these important changes in the Judicial machinery of this Colony and Protectorate certain Orders of His Majesty in Council were necessary and many local Ordinances required amendment. In addition to the Orders of His Majesty in Council the Ordinances connected with the judicial reforms totalled nineteen and certain portions of three others all of which, though enacted in 1933, were brought into operation on 1st April, 1934, upon which day the new system was put into operation. The institution of the new system over such a large territory as Nigeria was effected without any friction although naturally considerable time and trouble had to be devoted to seeing that the theory and the practice of the new procedure coincided.

270. The following are the more important enactments of 1934 Ordinances:—

- (1) The Public Officers (Levy on Emoluments) (Amendment) Ordinance, 1934 (No. 2) extends the provisions of the Public Officers (Levy on Emoluments) Ordinance, 1933, for another year. The latter Ordinance which was for one year only imposed a levy on the emoluments of public officers; the levy being on a graduated scale which increases with the amounts of the emoluments.
- (2) The Evidence (British and Foreign Documents) Ordinance, 1934 (No. 3) makes provision in certain cases for the admissibility in the Courts of Nigeria of Certificates of the Entries in certain records and other documents in other countries which have made reciprocal arrangements.
- (3) The Importation of Textiles (Quotas) Ordinance, 1934 (No. 7) enables the Governor by Order in Council to fix the total quantity of textile goods manufactured in a foreign country which may be imported into Nigeria during any period. The importation is only permitted by sea and provision is made to guard against smuggling across the frontiers. The Ordinance does not apply to the Cameroons under British Mandate as that would be in conflict with the terms of the Mandate.
- (4) The Additional Customs Duties Ordinance, 1934 (No. 8) provides for an increased customs duty to be levied upon the goods of any country specified by order of the Governor in Council. The Ordinance provides that this duty shall be in addition to and not in substitution for the duties, if any, payable under any other Ordinance.
- (5) The Motor Traffic (Amendment) Ordinance, 1934 (No. 11) chiefly gives increased rule making powers and is intended to enable proper control to be exercised over stage carriages. On and after 1st January, 1935, all stage carriages operating solely within the municipal boundaries of Lagos will be required to comply with certain requirements including size and proper seating accommodation.
- (6) The Survey (Amendment) Ordinance, 1934 (No. 13) increases the rule making powers contained in Chapter 90 of the Laws and makes certain other



amendments the most important of which are designed to improve the standard of the work of surveyors and to give the Surveyor-General more control over them.

- (7) The Liquor (Amendment) Ordinance, 1934 (No. 16) is important in that provision has now been made for the issue of search warrants, which may be made available for not more than three months, to search premises where it is believed that offences in connection with the unlawful distillation of spirits are being committed. The Ordinance is necessary in view of the difficulties in certain places of being able to obtain a search warrant without considerable delay.
- (8) In view of the scheme for the employment by Government of medical assistants who have been trained at Yaba Higher College, Chapter 46 of the Laws of Nigeria, was repealed and re-enacted in an extended form by the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Ordinance, 1934 (No. 20). The Ordinance provides for a Board of Medical Examiners for Nigeria and the granting of certificates and diplomas in Nigeria by the Board. Medical assistants will in future be entitled to practise medicine, surgery and midwifery in the service of the Government of Nigeria anywhere in Nigeria subject to and in accordance with such regulations relating to medical assistants as may be made by the Governor in Council.
- (9) The Township Officers Provident Fund Ordinance, 1934 (No. 23) provides for the establishment of a Provident Fund for officers holding specified appointments in certain township. The townships and offices to which the Ordinance applies are in a Schedule which may be added to or varied by Order of the Governor in Council. At present the Ordinance only applies to the Township of Lagos.

### Subsidiary Legislation.

271. Two Orders in Council of considerable importance are Nos. 15 and 16, the former made under the Native Authority Ordinance, 1933, and the latter under the Native Courts Ordinance of the same year. The effect of these Orders in Council are respectively to place under the jurisdiction of the Native Authorities and Native Courts of the Northern Provinces certain persons not ordinarily subject to the Native Authorities and Native Courts but who come within certain categories and in

addition " whose general mode of life is that of the general native community ". Somewhat similar jurisdiction and powers are given to the Native Authorities and Native Courts of the Southern Provinces by Orders in Council Nos. 36 and 37 which were consented to by Resolution of the Legislative Council on the 12th of June.

272. By Order in Council No. 18, jurisdiction was conferred upon all Native Courts in respect of all the provisions of the Native Revenue Ordinance (Chapter 74), and the Building Lines Regulation Ordinance (Chapter 108), and by Order in Council No. 32, jurisdiction was conferred upon the Native Tribunals in Oyo Province to enforce the provisions of the Forestry Ordinance and the Regulations made thereunder; the above Orders naturally only applying to persons subject to the jurisdiction of the Native Courts.

273. The jurisdiction of the Native Courts in the Southern Provinces was extended by Order in Council No. 37 and consented to by resolution of the Legislative Council to include all natives of Nigeria and all native foreigners in cases in which they consent to the exercise of the jurisdiction: and Native Authorities in the Southern Provinces were by Order in Council No. 36, which was likewise consented to by the Legislative Council, given powers over all persons who have taken up permanent residence within the area of the jurisdiction of the Native Authority and whose general mode of life is that of the general native community.

274. By Orders in Council Nos. 38 and 39 the provisions of the Additional Customs Duties Ordinance, 1934, and of the Importation of Textiles (Quotas) Ordinance, 1934, were respectively applied to Japan and certain textile goods manufactured in Japan. By Order in Council No. 61 of 1934, the Quota for 1935 has been passed at a total of 2,430,000 square yards and by Regulations No. 34 of 1934 a licence fee has been provided for a licence to import regulated textiles.

275. By Resolution and Order No. 2 the export duties on palm kernels and palm oil were considerably reduced; a new import duty was imposed on dried fish and an export duty on bananas, fresh and dried.

276. In the course of the year there were many Orders made by Native Authorities constituting areas as Native Administration Forest Reserves.

277. By Regulations No. 3 of 1934, certain forced labour may be employed on minor communal services, this labour can only be extracted from able bodied males between the ages of



eighteen and forty-five and from not more than twenty-five per centum of such males of the same town or village at the same time: in certain cases the labour can only be extracted from those having a direct interest in the service being performed.

278. The Electric Supply Regulations, 1934, and the Electric Wiring Regulations, 1934, Nos. 10 and 11 respectively, provide that all works connected with the supply of electricity and the wiring of premises and elsewhere are carried out in a proper manner for the supply of the public.

279. Regulations No. 18 provide for an export duty equal to fifty per centum of the maximum royalty payable in respect of tin ore except where such ore was won in the Cameroons under British Mandate or is to be smelted in the United Kingdom or a British possession.

280. By Regulations No. 25 provision has been made for the handling of goods in transit *via* the Railway between Lagos and Kano.

281. By the Motor Traffic (Amendment) Regulations, 1934, special provision has been made in respect of stage carriages plying within the Municipal boundaries of Lagos. All stage carriages plying for hire solely within the Municipal boundaries of Lagos will have to comply as from 1st January, 1935, with the requirements of the regulations, all of which are intended to improve the standard of stage carriages both in respect of their general appearance, mechanical efficiency and the comfort and safety of passengers; each stage carriage being allowed to carry a certain number of passengers, which number is fixed after allowing sufficient comfortable accommodation for each passenger.

282. Regulations No. 35 made under the Tobacco and Cigarettes Excise Duties Ordinance, 1933, provide for the keeping of certain records of the production of licensed factories. The records will show exactly how much imported and how much native grown tobacco is used in the manufacture locally of various brands of cigarette. No excise duty is imposed.

### Legislation Providing for Sickness, Etc.

283. By Orders in Council during the year some of the provisions of the Public Health Ordinance and the rules made thereunder were extended to certain areas including portions of Okigwi in the Owerri Province and the townships of Burutu and Forcados; likewise the provisions of the Dogs Ordinance have been extended to many places. The most important legislation affecting the health of the people, however, is the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Ordinance, 1934, to which reference has already been made.

## CHAPTER XV.

## PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

284. *Revenue and Expenditure.*—The Revenue and Expenditure for the past five years, including that of the Nigerian Railway, are as follows:—

Year,	True Revenue.	True Expenditure.	Expenditure on Loan Works.
	£	£	£
1929-30 ...	8,703,165	8,947,707	794,862
1930-31 ...	7,847,554	8,555,022	863,403
1931-32 ...	6,732,454	8,063,143	597,147
1932-33 ...	6,899,567	6,898,801	719,283
1933-34 ...	6,750,407	6,898,816	102,251

285. Revenue and Expenditure for the six months April to September, 1934, excluding the Nigerian Railway, amounted to £1,839,427 and £2,191,757, respectively. The expenditure actually charged to the 1927 and 1930 Loan Funds, during that period, is £1,349 and £53,711 respectively. The revised estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the financial year 1934-35 exclusive of Railway figures other than the Railway net deficit, are £4,376,002 and £4,702,740 respectively.

286. *Debt.*—The Public Debt, at 30th September, 1934, amounted to £27,822,582 and the accumulated Sinking Funds to £4,915,225. This latter amount includes the Supplementary Reserve (Sinking) Fund of £930,370 which is classified as an “Appropriated Fund” in the Balance Sheet of Nigeria. Provision is made for the amortisation of all loans by annual contributions to Sinking Funds.

287. All Nigeria Loans rank as “Trustee” Securities and are quoted on the London Stock Exchange. They, together with the middle market prices quoted on the 31st of October, 1934, are as follows:—

Amount Outstanding.	Description of Stock.				Quotation.		
1. £4,045,593	Southern Nigeria	3½%	Inscribed	Stock, 1930-55	...	...	101
2. £6,363,226	Nigeria	6%	Inscribed	Stock, 1949-79	...	...	127
3. £3,200,390	„	6%	„	1936-46	...	...	106
4. £5,700,000	„	4%	„	1963	...	...	111
5. £4,250,000	„	5%	„	1947-57	...	...	118
6. £4,263,373	„	5%	„	1950-60	...	...	119



288. The annual charges for the service of the Public Debt, on account of interest and Sinking Fund, in the year 1933-34 amounted to £1,626,659 of which the Railway contributed £875,320, in respect of interest only.

289. *Assets*.—The Balance Sheet of Nigeria is published monthly in the *Nigeria Gazette* and from that of the 30th September, 1934, it may be seen that the excess of Assets over Liabilities at that date amounted to £1,906,146, which is £352,329 less than the surplus at the commencement of the financial year 1934-35. This difference represents the amount by which the expenditure of Nigeria exceeded the revenue (exclusive of the Railway) during the six months April to September, 1934. The net deficit of the Railway for the same period was £325,590.

290. Loan Funds, of which the unexpended balance amounted to £1,283,935 on the 30th of September, 1934, and surplus funds are invested in England, in "Trustee Securities".

291. Some of the larger Assets which are appropriated to specific services and invested, are as follows:—

	£
Supplementary Reserve (Sinking) Fund ...	930,370
Railway Renewals Fund ... ..	207,613
Marine Renewals Fund ... ..	52,505
Reserve for Stamp Duty on Stock Transfers	54,788
Electricity Renewals Fund ... ..	26,895

292. *Taxation*.—A graduated Income Tax, not exceeding one per cent, is levied on incomes (when not less than £30 per annum) of male persons in the Colony and of male non-natives throughout the Dependency. Natives and native-foreigners in the Protectorate and the Cameroons under British Mandate pay taxes in accordance with the various forms of assessment described in section 304. They are collected by the various Native Administrations throughout Nigeria and are then divided, in varying proportions, between Government and Native Administrations.

293. The actual revenue received by the Central Government from direct taxation in the financial year 1933-34 is as follows:—

	£
General Tax, Northern Provinces ...	447,223
Cattle Tax, Northern Provinces ...	82,494
General Tax, Southern Provinces ...	240,782
Cattle Tax, Southern Provinces ...	1,248
Income Tax, Colony ... ..	22,076
Income Tax, Protectorate ... ..	14,252
	<hr/>
	£808,075
	<hr/>

294. *Customs Tariff (Summarised).*—The first schedule to the Customs Tariff Ordinance enumerates a list of articles under forty-five headings (exclusive of sub-divisions) on which import duties are imposed. The duties are 15% *ad valorem* on articles such as hardware, earthenware and glassware, cutlery, furniture, musical instruments, etc., and a specific rate on alcoholic liquor (beer and stout 2s. the imperial gallon, wines 6s. to 10s. the imperial gallon, gin 24s. 10d. to 28s. 9d., other spirits 30s. 10d. to 48s. 6d.). firearms 12s. 6d. each and ammunition 2s. 6d. and 5s. per hundred rounds; cement 3d. the 100 lb., salt 2s. 6d. the 100 lb., soap 4s. the 100 lb., sugar 2s. the 100 lb., tobacco unmanufactured 2s. the lb., manufactured 4s. the lb., cigars 8s. the hundred, cigarettes 2s. the hundred, provisions at varying rates, woven piece goods:—plain weave  $\frac{7}{8}$ d., fancy weave  $1\frac{1}{8}$ d., etc.; all of which duties, with the exception of those payable on gin, rum and petrol, are subject to a surtax of 10% of the amount payable as from the 22nd of October, 1934.

295. There is an export duty on cocoa (£1 3s. 4d. the ton) palm kernel oil (£2 the ton) palm kernels (10s. 6d. the ton) palm oil (11s. 6d. the ton) and tin (3s. 4d. the ton).

296. *Excise and Stamp Duties.*—No excise duties have been levied in Nigeria prior to the enactment of the Tobacco and Cigarettes Excise Duties Ordinance, 1933.

The revenue derived from licences and stamp duties, in the year 1933/34, was as follows:—

	£
Licences, Game ... ..	467
„ Liquor ... ..	7,282
„ Motor vehicles and drivers ...	51,243
„ Guns, etc. ... ..	1,780
„ Miscellaneous ... ..	2,197
Stamp duties ... ..	8,503
	<hr/>
	£71,472
	<hr/>

297. *Native Administrations.*—The various Native Administrations throughout Nigeria have their own Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, deriving their revenue principally from a proportion of direct taxes, which varies from 50% to 65% of the total collected. The totals of actual Revenue and Expenditure for 1933-34 of all the Native Administrations together were £1,295,976 and £1,317,602, respectively (Northern Provinces £872,547 and £909,230; Southern Provinces £423,429 and £408,372). The total excess of Expenditure over Revenue (£21,626) is accounted for in the Surplus Balances of the Native



Administrations, which, at the beginning of the financial year 1933-34, stood at £1,913,242 and at the end were, accordingly, decreased to £1,891,616 (Northern Provinces £1,422,853; Southern Provinces £468,763); all of which figures are subject to audit.

The estimated totals of Revenue and Expenditure of all the Native Administrations for 1934-35 are £1,366,070 and £1,517,860, respectively. The following notes give an account of the assessment and collection of tax payable by natives and native-foreigners who are resident within the Protectorate and the Cameroons under British Mandate:—

### Northern Provinces.

298. The system of direct taxation is that of a “ graduated income tax ” which has taken the place of the various forms of taxation found operating in the country on its first occupation by the British. The assessment of this tax is undertaken by the Administrative staff and is one of their most important duties. The area of the land ordinarily cultivated by a village is first ascertained and the average market value of the produce from it together with the amount and value of special irrigation crops is calculated. The village livestock is then counted and in consultation with the District and Village Headmen the assessing officer endeavours to arrive at an equitable assessment of the non-agricultural portion of the community, *i.e.*, the craftsmen and traders. When the total amount due from the agricultural and industrial groups of the village is decided, it is apportioned by the Village Head assisted by the Elders among the tax-paying adults, so that each man pays according to his income.

299. The tax is collected by the Village Headman, usually after harvest, and remitted to the District Headman who pays in the total to the central Native Treasury of the Emirate or other unit. Receipts are issued to the individual and the Village Headman is paid as salary a proportion of the tax collected by him. The incidence of the taxation varies very considerably with the conditions of different localities being in some areas less than 2s. and in others exceeding 13s. per adult tax-paying male.

300. The hardships suffered by the people as a result of the economic depression have been relieved by reductions both in the general and cattle tax where proved necessary as well as by such concessions as the waiving of dispensary fees in certain areas and of immunisation fees in others. To meet a reduction in Revenue considerable economies have been made by Native Administrations without, however, impairing essential services or even such medical and educational services as have been inaugurated in recent years.

### Southern Provinces.

301. There are three main forms of assessment of tax:—

*A.*—Assessment of the average income of the adult male resulting in the imposition of a flat rate of tax.

*B.*—A more detailed assessment of the incomes of classes of the community, *e.g.*, goldsmiths, and of individual members.

*C.*—Assessment of a community in a lump sum.

302. The first form of assessment is common to almost every Native Administration area in the Southern Provinces. Inquiries are instituted into the average annual gross income of the peasant farmer, who is taken as the standard because he forms the bulk of the male adults of the Southern Provinces, and the rate of tax for the area is worked out on a basis of approximately  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of the average annual gross income. For example, if the average income were estimated at £12, the tax would be 6s. per adult male, and this flat rate, though it may appear to be a poll tax, is in reality a rudimentary form of income tax, inasmuch as a very large proportion of the community have an almost identical income. The number of adult males in the area to be assessed is then ascertained, and the flat rate of tax and the total sum required are communicated to the Village Council, and made widely public.

303. As regards *B*, assessment is carried to a point which enables the average annual incomes of typical members of various trades and professions to be ascertained, and special rates of tax are fixed accordingly for them, either inclusive of or additional to the flat rate referred to above. A graduated scale of income tax is also introduced for the wealthier members of these communities, notably salaried employees whose incomes are readily ascertainable. In certain areas, the system has been carried to its logical conclusion of a separate assessment of the income of each individual adult male in the community.

304. In the Ijebu and Abeokuta Provinces a tax is also imposed on women, but the combined rate of tax on adult males and females is much the same as that on adult males only in the neighbouring provinces.

305. As regards *C*, in certain areas of the Cameroons Province the system known as “lump sum assessment” was introduced with the consent of the people. The suitability of this form of taxation for more primitive peoples is open to question and for the present its extension to other areas is unlikely. The total wealth and population of each taxable unit, whether quarter or village or group of villages, is ascertained and a sum approximating to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of the gross annual income of the unit is



declared to be the amount of tax due from that unit. The Village Head and Elders are then informed of the amount of tax due and the approximate incidence per adult male, but full discretion is given to them to distribute the burden according to the capacity to pay, since they alone have an intimate knowledge of the relative degree of prosperity of each individual.

306. In the more advanced Native Administrations, where Village Heads and District Heads are recognised by the people, tax is paid through the family and the quarter to the highest recognised Native Authority by whom it is handed over to the Native Treasury. In the less advanced areas, where the indigenous organisation is conciliar, tax is paid to the Treasury by the highest acknowledged authority, who is sometimes no more than the head of a family.

307. Owing to the general financial depression it was again found necessary to reduce the rates of direct taxation in certain of the poorer districts as had been done in the previous three years. As instancing the reductions and remissions made since 1929-30 it may be noted that in that year the gross sum of £2,202,097 was collected in direct taxes whereas the comparable sum in 1934/35 was £1,806,146.

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## CHAPTER XVI.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

308. His Majesty's Ships *Milford*, *Rochester* and *Weston* paid the usual periodic visits to Lagos and other Nigerian ports. In addition H.M. Sloops *Daffodil* and *Delphinium* made a stay at Lagos on their way to England to pay off. The South African Minesweeping Trawlers *Sonneblom* and *Immortelle* also came into Lagos on their way home.

His Majesty's Ship *Dorsetshire* flying the flag of Vice-Admiral E. R. G. R. Evans, C.B., D.S.O., entered Lagos on the 3rd of November, and left on the 5th, during her stay she lay alongside the Customs Wharf.

309. In June the Sultan and Waziri of Sokoto and the Emirs of Kano and Gwandu, with some of their councillors and attendants, visited England for the first time and were received by His Majesty the King and the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

310. Mohammudu, Sarkin Kebbi, Emir of Argungu, died on the 21st October and has been succeeded by his eldest son. In March Abubukr was installed as 12th Emir of Keffi and Mohaman Agwe as 15th Emir of Lafia.

311. The Emir of Kano has been awarded the Honorary C.B.E. and the Emir of Daura the King's Medal for African Chiefs.

312. The first Kano Agricultural Show was held in January in the Middle School grounds. It was extremely popular and attracted numerous people from the outer districts.

313. During the year a Law School has been started at Kano for the training of Alkalai. The instruction is given by three Mohammedan law teachers from the Sudan Law School. The school is attended by suitable candidates from the Mohammedan Emirates of the Northern Provinces.

314. At the end of October, during a farewell visit by the Lieutenant-Governor (Captain (now Sir Walter) Buchanan-Smith) to Ijebu-Ode, an attempt to assassinate the Awujale was made by a member of the family of the exiled ex-Awujale Adenuga. The attempt failed but the Awujale was severely wounded by a pistol shot in the right arm which had to be amputated. The assailant was tried before the High Court and sentenced to fourteen years imprisonment with hard labour.

315. On January 19th the Higher College at Yaba was officially opened by His Excellency the Governor. His Excellency in a speech made on this occasion explained the present and future scope of this institution, which will develop gradually into a University College.

316. The discovery of diamonds in Sokoto and Zaria Provinces has created considerable interest and prospecting parties are now searching these areas to ascertain if they occur in economic quantities. Interest is being displayed in the mineral Columbite and contracts have been made for shipping relatively large parcels of this ore.

317. Among this year's visitors to Nigeria have been Professor C. Y. Shephard of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad. Professor E. P. Stebbing, Professor of Forestry, Edinburgh University. Mrs. J. Leith-Ross and Miss M. Green, who are carrying out anthropological and linguistic researches in the Ibo country and Mr. C. R. Buxton, M.P.

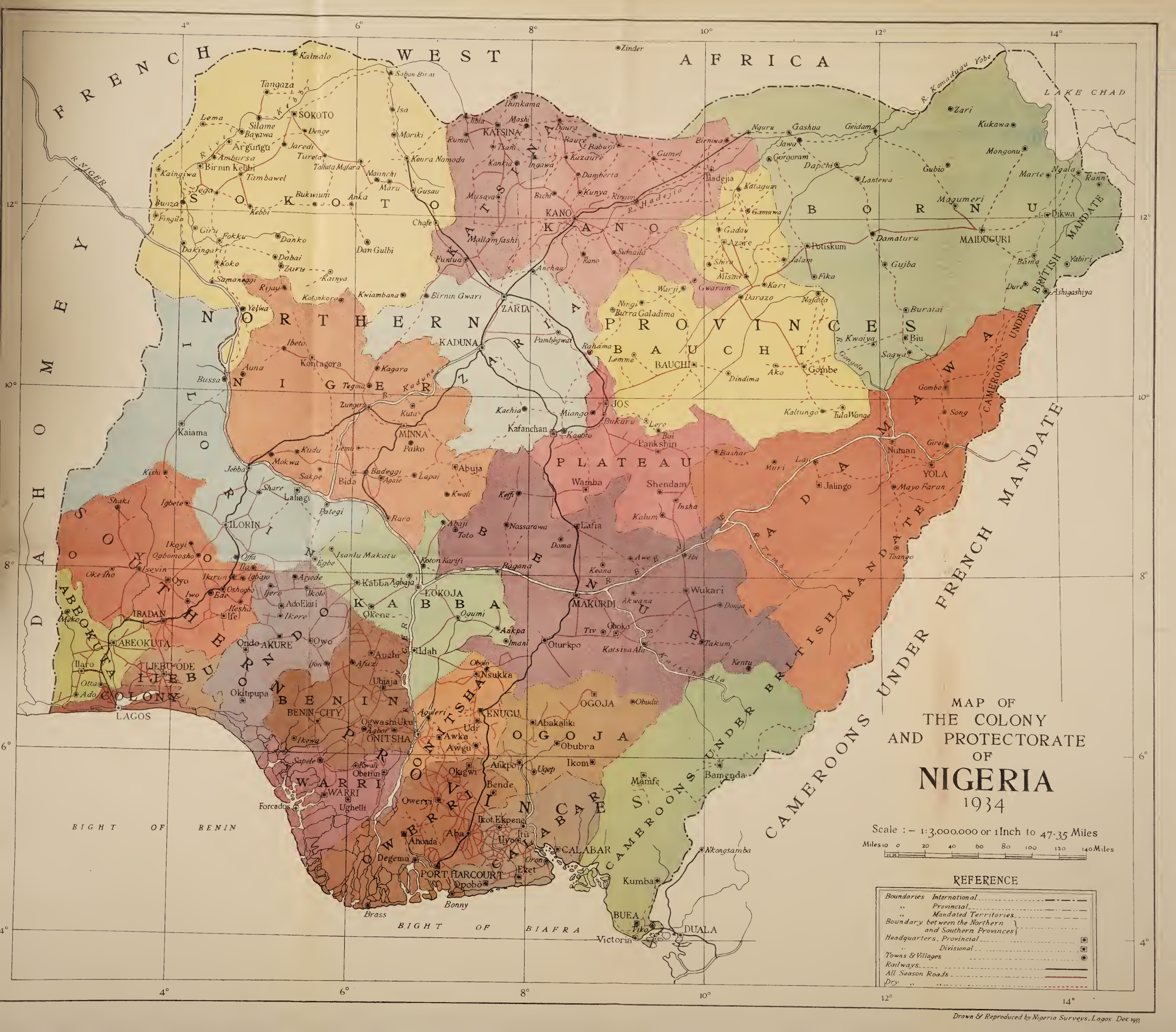


## APPENDIX.

The following publications may be obtained from the C.M.S. Bookshop, Lagos and, where marked with an asterisk, from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, London, S.W.1.

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Communications Map and Guide ... ..	1	1	0





MAP OF  
THE COLONY  
AND PROTECTORATE  
OF  
**NIGERIA**  
1934

Scale : - 1:3,000,000 or 1 Inch to 47.35 Miles  
Miles 0 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 Miles

REFERENCE	
Boundaries International	-----
" Provincial	-----
" Mandated Territories	-----
Boundary between the Northern and Southern Provinces	-----
Headquarters, Provincial	■
" Divisional	□
Towns & Villages	●
Railways	—+—+—+—
All Season Roads	—
Dry " "	---





# Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

## MIGRATION.

Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1s. 6d. (1s. 8d.).

## MALTA.

Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3s. 6d. (3s. 11d.).  
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5s. (5s. 9d.).

## IMPERIAL CONFERENCE, 1930.

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Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 3718.] 4s. (4s. 4d.).  
Report of the Conference on Standardisation. (Including Resolutions adopted by the Imperial Conference). [Cmd. 3716.] 3d. (3½d.).

## COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE, 1930.

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Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission. [Cmd. 4182.] 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d.).  
East African Agricultural Research Station, Amani. Sixth Annual Report, 1933-34. [Colonial No. 100.] 1s. (1s. 1d.).

## BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

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Report by Sir Sydney Armitage Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission, October, 1931. [Cmd. 3996.] 2s. (2s. 2d.).

## PALESTINE.

Report on Immigration, Land Settlement and Development, by Sir John Hope Simpson, C.I.E., 1930. [Cmd. 3686.] 3s. (3s. 3d.).  
Appendix to Report, containing Maps. [Cmd. 3687.] 2s. (2s. 3d.).

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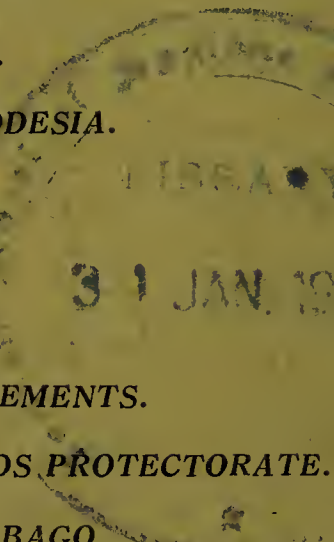


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H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on the Social and Economic Progress of the Peoples of the Colonies and Protectorates, most of which contain a map of the Dependency concerned. More than 40 Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 50s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

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BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.  
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BRITISH GUIANA.  
BRITISH HONDURAS. .  
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PRO-  
TECTORATE.  
BRUNEI, STATE OF.  
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).  
CEYLON.  
CYPRUS.  
FALKLAND ISLANDS.  
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GOLD COAST.  
GRENADA.  
HONG KONG.  
JAMAICA.  
JOHORE.

KEDAH AND PERLIS.  
KELANTAN.  
KENYA COLONY & PROTECTORATE.  
LEEWARD ISLANDS.  
MAURITIUS.  
NEW HEBRIDES.  
NIGERIA.  
NORTHERN RHODESIA.  
NYASALAND.  
ST. HELENA.  
ST. LUCIA.  
ST. VINCENT.  
SEYCHELLES.  
SIERRA LEONE.  
SOMALILAND.  
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.  
SWAZILAND.  
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.  
TRENGGANU.  
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.  
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UGANDA.  
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Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

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Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.